



The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Thursday November 7 1996

Algeria D 1.50	Greenland D 4.00	Norway NOK 18
Australia A 1.20	Hong Kong HK\$ 2.25	Denmark DKK 1.20
Austria S 1.30	India Rupee 15	Finland F 5.00
Bahrain BD 0.25	Indonesia Rp 1,000	France F 6.20
Belgium B 36	Iran R 1,000	Germany D 2.20
Canada C 3.25	Italy L 1,000	Spain P 165
Cyprus C 2.00	Japan Y 110	Sweden S 8.20
Czech Republic Kc 20	Korea W 1,000	Switzerland S 2.20
Dubai D 2.50	Latvia L 200	Taiwan T 20
Egypt E 1.50	Lithuania Lt 200	Thailand B 50
Finland F 5.00	Luxembourg Lf 40	USA US\$ 2.25
France F 6.20	Malaysia M 2.20	
Germany D 2.20	Mexico M 20	
Greece D 4.00	Netherlands G 4.00	

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

Jaci Stephen on troubles in the Street

Sex and the soap wars

G2 with European weather



Books

Six of the best

They're off — runners and riders in the Guardian Fiction Prize

OnLine

How much money can you make on the Internet?

G2 pages 12/13

Stephanopoulos, the Democratic whiz-kid, to take on Conservatives

Clinton star to boost Labour

Jonathan Freedland in Little Rock

GORGE Stephanopoulos, the whiz-kid White House adviser who helped Bill Clinton win two presidential victories, is set to work for Tony Blair and the Labour Party at the next general election.

In a stunning move that could trigger a rift between the White House and the Conservative government — and a civil war within Labour — Mr Stephanopoulos told the Guardian yesterday he was eager to help Mr Blair. He had communicated his interest to friends in the Labour Party.

The Labour leader paid warm tributes to Mr Stephanopoulos last night. Mr Blair's

office said: "We know him and rate him highly. We would welcome any input he could feasibly make."

Mr Stephanopoulos, speaking in Little Rock less than 12 hours after Mr Clinton won a second term with nearly 50 per cent of the popular vote and a landslide in the electoral college, said: "I've told them I'm happy to help if they want me."

The pin-up of Mr Clinton's 1992 campaign and still one of the stars of the administration, Mr Stephanopoulos said no formal arrangement had yet been agreed with Labour, but that he aimed to do for Mr Blair what he has already done for President Clinton.

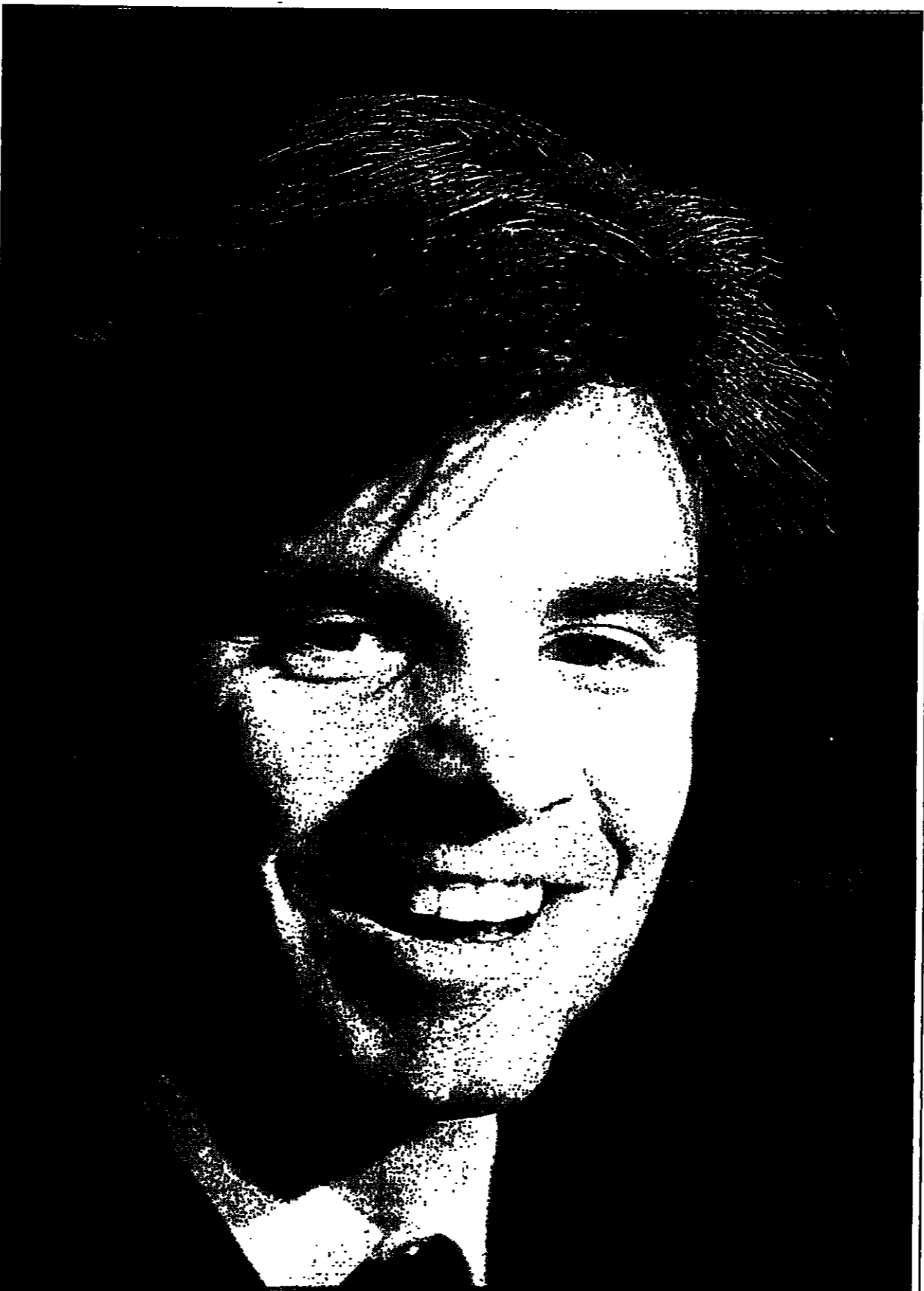
The 35-year-old adviser — immortalised as the fictional Henry Burton in the best-selling novel *Primary Colors* — said he would not be involved in hands-on campaigning for Labour, but would provide strategic counsel. "To help translate the lessons of Bill Clinton to Britain."

"I know how to work the last 90 days of a campaign," he said when asked to detail the kind of service he would be offering Labour. He understood "the sense of day-to-day tactics, how to respond to the tried-and-true techniques of the right wing."

The unprecedented offer of help from a senior member of the US administration to an overseas opposition party is bound to spark tension between London and Washington.

But sources close to Mr Stephanopoulos said he had little affection for John Major and had never forgiven the Tories for helping Mr Clinton's opponent in 1992, the then President George Bush.

Yesterday's move is also likely to trigger fresh scrutiny in the Labour Party, with Mr Blair's critics seizing on discussions of a role for Mr Stephanopoulos as evidence of excessive "Clintonisation".



George Stephanopoulos: ready to do for Tony Blair what he has done for Bill Clinton

George's finest strokes

- Helped point the Republican leadership as irresponsible even while this year's budget stand-off.
- Helped minimise damage of revelations that candidate Clinton was unfaithful and sought to avoid the Vietnam draft.
- During 1992 campaign wove together Bill Clinton's economic proposals in a sellable package "Putting People First".
- Orchestrated informal appearances by candidate Clinton on TV chat shows and MTV and channel media heaven.
- Crashed the Clinton Administration's Secret, don't say anything to the backlist against affirmative action.

Labour has already enjoyed an unusually close relationship with the Clinton White House, with Mr Stephanopoulos — whose official title is senior counsellor to the president — as the highest ranking point of contact.

Last month he played host to Peter Mandelson, Labour MP for Hartlepool, in San Diego, where the two watched the final presidential debate

between Mr Clinton and Republican challenger, Bob Dole.

Mr Mandelson, Mr Blair's election campaign organiser, said: "I realised he was not only a first-rate campaigner, but serious and committed in his politics, someone who could have a lot of sympathy with the economic and social policies Labour stands for."

Mr Stephanopoulos acknowledged Labour had played one crucial role in Mr Clinton's re-election. A memo from Labour consultant Philip Gould — suggesting Mr Clinton emulate the late French president Francois Mitterrand's 1988 election-winning strategy — became a crucial part of White House thinking.

The Gould memo — Mitter-

rand: Winning From Cohabitation — was written a month after the 1994 Republican victories in Congress, and urged Mr Clinton to copy the French example and turn the parliamentary opposition to his advantage.

US elections, pages 6-7; Leader comment and Letters, page 8; Backroom fixer, page 4

Tories in best poll showing for 3 years

Martin Kettle

THE WIDELY shared view among MPs that next year's general election could be a closer race than expected receives a powerful boost this morning with the news that the Conservatives have clawed five points off the Labour lead in a single month to narrow the gap between the parties to 13 points, according to the November Guardian/ICM opinion poll.

Labour's lead this month is the second lowest of the Tony Blair era. The Conservatives' 34-point rating is their best in an ICM poll for three years. Labour's rating shows a return to its September, pre-conference season figure, while the Liberal Democrats have dropped to their lowest ICM rating for two years.

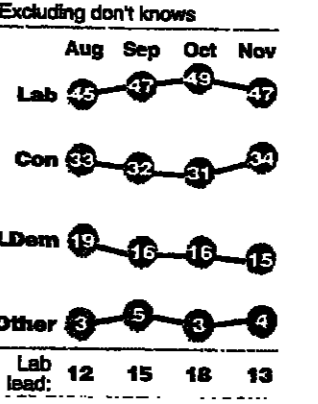
The sharp switch in the Tories' favour underlines the party's comeback after a successful party conference and comes amid Tory economic confidence in the run-up to Kenneth Clarke's pre-election Budget later this month.

It comes at a time when other opinion polls since the party conferences have produced contradictory messages, allowing both sides to claim victory in the pre-election exchanges. But the new poll finding confirms that the Conservatives are inching closer to their rivals.

The state of the parties this month, according to ICM's adjusted figures, is Labour 47 per cent (down 2 points since October), Conservatives 34 (up 3), Liberal Democrats 15 (down 1), and others 4 (up 1). The new Labour lead of 13 points over the Conservatives is down five points on October's 18-point gap between the parties.

October's poll was taken immediately after Labour's successful conference and be-

Voting intention



fore a Tory conference that turned out better than expected for the Government, so the pollsters point out that last month's lead may have been abnormally high. Nevertheless, the current 13-point lead in the Guardian/ICM series is consistent with a Labour lead of 14 points in an NOP poll in mid-October for the Sunday Times, rather than the 28-point gap recorded by Mori for the Times last week. It also reverses two months in which Labour had pulled further ahead in the Guardian/ICM index after the gap between the parties had narrowed to 12 points in August.

But the Conservatives would be wise not to uncork the champagne yet. Labour's 47 per cent rating equals its average over the last 12 months and is two points up on its July and August ratings. And according to the BBC/ITN seats projection guide, even these figures would still produce a theoretical Labour overall majority of 131 at the general election. turn to page 3, column 3

Hugo Young, page 9

The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

To our readers,

Over recent weeks, we have been experiencing production problems which have seriously affected our distribution in some countries.

We have now installed new transmission equipment at both our overseas print sites — an investment which will ensure a regular and timely distribution of The Guardian International to our readers all over the world.

Guardian Newspapers will continue to invest in the future — to make The Guardian International available in as many countries as possible, as early as possible.

We thank you for your continued support.

For further information on availability and subscriptions, please contact us:

International Publishing Dept
Tel: (44) (0)171 239 9949
Fax: (44) (0)171 713 4131
E-mail: guardian.co.uk

Police get greater knife search powers

Howard agrees to consider curbs on marketing of 'Rambo blades'

Alan Travis and Ewan MacAskill

POLICE are to be given wider powers to stop and search for knives or drugs anyone suspected of being a member of a street gang, the Home Office said last night.

The stronger powers were proposed yesterday by the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, as an alternative to his immediate support for new Labour and Liberal Democrat-backed laws on the manufacture and marketing of combat knives.

At cross-party talks yesterday, Mr Howard also agreed to consider new laws to control the sale and marketing of combat knives, such as those advertised as "Rambo blades".

The strengthened "sus" law will allow police to stop and search anyone they suspect of being part of a gang "which habitually carry knives, other weapons for unlawful purposes or drugs".

It will mean that police no longer need a reason to believe that a specific individual is carrying a knife before they can search him. Being part of a gang suspected of possessing knives will, in future,

be sufficient. The number of street encounters with the police will far exceed the 30,000 individuals stopped last year and searched on suspicion of carrying offensive weapons.

Mr Howard claimed any attempt to impose a simple ban on the sale of combat knives was likely to have a strictly limited impact on crime, while the new powers would tackle "the real problem of people using and carrying offensive weapons".

Both Labour and Liberal Democrats welcomed the proposed changes to conduct street searches under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act. "This is a welcome change to the police codes. It would help deal with the kind of gangland situation that in-

directly, tragically, led to the murder of Philip Lawrence," said the shadow home secretary, Jack Straw. For the Liberal Democrats, Alex Carlile said they would enable the police to deal with "gangs that tool themselves up in a uniform way".

But the opposition parties tried to corner Mr Howard yesterday afternoon by proposing he go further and add his voice to the cross-party support for a private members' bill to ban the marketing of combat knives.

The bill, likely to be introduced by Jimmy Wray, Labour MP for Glasgow Provan, would ban the marketing of all knives except those which had a reasonable purpose, such as kitchen knives. Combat knives would auto-

matically be prohibited. No attempt would be made to define combat knives by their shape.

Mr Wray came top of a ballot of MPs on private members' bills, which gives him a good chance of getting the bill through, providing it has cross-party support.

"We want to see these combat knives taken out of circulation, their sale banned and their marketing and advertising, and we think we have got words which achieve that," Mr Straw said.

Mr Howard will have to indicate whether he is prepared to support it to the Opposition before November 19, the deadline for submitting private members' bills. Politically, it would be difficult for Conservatives to be opposed to such a bill.



LABOUR is fuming at reports that Tony Blair has restyled his hair to appeal to women. So the Guardian asked a leading hairdresser to suggest new looks for four top politicians. The results are on page 3.

Inside	Britain	World News	Finance	Sport	Comment and Letters 6; Obituaries 10 G2 Crossword 15; Weather 16; Radio 10; TV 16
---------------	----------------	-------------------	----------------	--------------	--

The Guardian INTERNATIONAL
Europe's Quality Newspaper

Sketch

Deadly lure of a patriotic poppy



Simon Hoggart

IN THE distant past, only a few Labour MPs wore poppies at this time of year. It was thought, I suppose, a little militaristic by the younger members, though I cannot think why, since the great majority of the soldiers who died in the two world wars were civilian conscripts.

Now, under New Labour, almost all of them sport patriotic poppies. Some would wear dress uniform and medals if they could. What's more, a sort of "poppler than thou" competition has grown up. Most still wear the standard one-dimensional flower with a bit of plastic leaf.

But Stuart Bell (Lab, Middlesbrough) has a far more luxuriant bloom. His poppy, the size of a saucer, is as luxuriant and petalled as an orchid, surrounded by what appears to be a miniature rain forest. (I exaggerate, but not much.)

One half expects David Attenborough to creep up to Mr Bell's poppy, and with that wonderful voice, hushed yet husky, tell us: "This flower, Papaver Indica Spokespersonensis, or give it its technical name, The Giant Flesh-Eating Poppy, is beautiful — but it is deadly."

"If a Tory backbencher, lured into range by the deep crimson leaves and the lush foliage, were to stray near the blossom, poisonous tendrils would leap out and drag the helpless, struggling politician to his doom. Within five minutes, the poppy's digestive juices, which can liquefy a Volkswagen Golf..."

Just a fantasy, though one which was hypnotic, since Mr Bell has personally discovered an entirely new species of parliamentary horse manure to fertilise his poppy.

For years now, Tory ministers have been blaming the problems of our nation on 17 years of Labour misrule. The doubling of crime, for

instance, is frequently charged to Labour's failure to support the last 33 crime bills.

As we all know, many a young tearaway, on being apprehended by the police, has said: "Coo, if you haven't got me bang to rights and no mistake, gov'nor. But since I heard that them toffs in New Labour had failed to give

whole-hearted backing to the statutory and of the automatic right to silence, I've told my brief to spin things out till the next election. And while I'm waiting, I'll mug a few more old ladies as well as peddling deadly hard drugs outside our schools."

Mr Bell, his poppy seeming to pulse dangerously in the late autumn sunshine, went onto the precise opposite tack. Instead of claiming that our present ills are the fault of the Labour opposition, he alleged that whatever is going right now could be credited to a future Labour government.

He congratulated ministers on "all this inward investment" which he said was "pouring in". But foreigners could read the polls and, he added, they were sending us all this cash because they were looking forward to the new Labour government, which would introduce the minimum wage and sign us up to the Social Charter.

This was a piece of sophistry that would do credit to a Tory backbencher. I congratulate Mr Bell. But I hope he will take care of his poppy and give it plenty to eat — rodents, household pets, etc. — so that it does not reach over this afternoon and swallow Mr Blair, bald head and all.

Speaking of hatreds, I had intended yesterday to return to the subject of my old friend Michael Fabricant. (I recently received from him a two-page letter which I am honour-bound not to quote, but to which I shall reply in due course.)

Mr Fabricant was due to ask question 19, about trade with the Far East. Normally he would have been in his seat at 2.30, twitching nervously as his turn approached. But he never appeared, and the Speaker glided smoothly from question 18 to 20.

I, and many Labour MPs, were shocked and worried. I desperately hope he is not ill. I shall pass on any news as soon as I receive it.

Review

Passage to India without the guilt

Michael Billington

A Perfect Ganesh
West Yorkshire Playhouse,
Leeds

INDIA as a place of self-discovery and cultural conflict: it is the theme of countless novels, films and plays. What makes *Terrance McNally's A Perfect Ganesh*, getting its British premiere at the West Yorkshire Playhouse, both unusual and poignant is that it sees India from an American perspective and makes the elephant-headed Hindu god Ganesh as much a part of the action as Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

McNally's wise and charming play shows two mature Connecticut women frantically undertaking a two-week tour of India from Bombay to Rajasthan. Margaret is a self-styled bossy bitch who wants to see India from a distance and whose tough manner conceals an aching fear of breast cancer. Katharine is a vulnerable woman who yearns to experience everything and who is still mourning her gay son, who suffered a queer-bashing death. But, even before they leave JFK,

the women's footsteps are dogged by Ganesh, who takes multiple forms and reveals the power to remove obstacles.

One of McNally's key points is that our experience of India is shadowed by culture history. The women's stay at the Lake Palace in Udaipur reminds them of a Jewel in the Crown and Margaret's suspicion that her cancerous breast has been touched up in a train-tunnel evokes *A Passage to India*. But, where British writers are inevitably weighed down by the heavy baggage of colonial guilt, McNally refreshingly sees India as a place that, in spite of mutual misunderstanding, still has the capacity to heal.

What makes his play original is the ubiquitous presence of the god, Ganesh, who turns up as travel courier, Japanese tourist and hotel chambermaid, but also in his own rat-riding person as a source of wisdom about the need to embrace opposites. Not the least of the play's themes is that we need to accept death with as much grace and courage as life; and, although the action reveals an exceptionally high mortality rate, McNally movingly shows his main characters undergoing a genuine transformation.

McNally's work is strangely neglected in Britain. Here, under an episodic structure, he shows the subcontinent's capacity to change human lives. Jude Kelly's production is also bound together by Robin Don's unfolding design, which implies the colourful confusion of India, and by a fine quartet of performances. Prunella Scales's Margaret is all capricious prissiness camouflaging undisclosed emotion. Eleanor Bron displays the cultural voracity of the close-knit couple. Paul Bhattacharjee silkily embodies Ganesh's mischief and benevolence, and Tristan Sharps understatedly plays a variety of characters mostly afflicted by death.

An intriguing play that, in its vision of a world surrounded by beneficent immortals, artfully combines Hinduism and Shakespeare and that finally argues "allow, accept, be".

Child porn suspect killed himself to avoid shame

A COMPUTER technician, charged with downloading child pornography from the Internet, killed himself rather than face public shame, an inquest decided yesterday.

The North East Cumbria coroner, Ian Morton, said father of three Robert Bickerstaffe, aged 38, from Merseyside, committed suicide in his car at a Lake District beauty

spot after his arrest for possession of "graphic" images of naked children.

Mr Bickerstaffe, a senior computer technician at Liverpool university, was interviewed by detectives in August this year after colleagues became suspicious of the contents of his files.

A Home Office pathologist said death was due to carbon monoxide poisoning.



Benazir Bhutto accuses President Farooq Leghari of plotting against her and fabricating stories of corruption at a press conference in her home yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: MUZAMMIL PAKSA

Defiant Bhutto fights back

President accused of kidnapping husband

Suzanne Goldenberg
in Islamabad

BENAZIR Bhutto broke an imposed silence with a bravura performance yesterday, sneering at the president who sacked her and accusing him of ordering the kidnap of her husband.

Wearing black and her face pale beneath a white scarf, Ms Bhutto — defiant and full

of fire — started her campaign to reverse her dismissal on Tuesday by President Farooq Leghari.

Clearly enjoying her first audience since she had been confined to her home, and all her telephones cut off, Ms Bhutto reserved much of her wrath for Mr Leghari. She accused him of plotting against her for months, fabricating stories of mismanagement and corruption to provide a pretext for his takeover, and the detention of her

husband and investment minister, Asif Ali Zardari.

"It seems that power is such an intoxicant the people who sit on the chair forget that the masters of the destiny are the people," Ms Bhutto said. She dared him to resign and said both should go to the people in elections scheduled for February 3.

But amid the defiance, there was an appeal for sympathy. "I don't know where my husband is," she said, threatening to file kidnapping charges against the president if Mr Zardari is not produced before his lawyers.

Ms Bhutto also used the press conference to drive home her contention that the killing of her brother, Mur-

taza, by police in Karachi in September presaged an attempt to unseat her.

"My brother's murder was a premeditated conspiracy to destabilise Pakistan," she said. "Murazza Bhutto was killed to destabilise the government of Benazir Bhutto. There are people who want to get the Bhuttos." Murazza's murder was one of the main reasons cited in Mr Leghari's dissolution order.

She said Mr Leghari's action, a betrayal of democratic and Islamic values, stung all the more bitterly because he had been a loyal supporter in her Pakistan People's Party for 20 years before she helped him to become president. "I took a man who was

my number two and a very good number two. He had no vision, he had no strategy, but he was a very good implementer."

She was scathing about the restrictions on her movements, saying it revived memories of the generals who handed her father in 1979, and that she was being victimised as the heir to his political dynasty.

The new administration has denied putting Ms Bhutto under house arrest, and yesterday said she was free to leave her official residence. Ms Bhutto held an executive meeting of her party and at 5pm, the gates that guard the road leading to her hilltop mansion opened for a convoy of journalists' cars.

But she was less successful in tracing her husband. Aides distributed copies of a letter to the president, which detailed her efforts to learn his whereabouts from the army and the caretaker government. "I can only surmise that you have ordered the kidnapping through the Rangers or other forces in an illegal and unconstitutional manner and I apprehend that you are having him tortured," she wrote.

No charges have been brought against Mr Zardari. However, Irshad Haqqani, information minister in the caretaker government, said: "Asif Ali Zardari is in protective custody. It means there is something against him. An inquiry is on."

CBI denies parties support in run-up to election

Simon Beavis
and Larry Elliott

THE CBI last night dashed the hopes of the two main political parties that it would take sides in the election battle when its director general insisted on strict neutrality in the six months to polling day.

In an interview ahead of the CBI's annual conference, Adair Turner took a swipe at the Conservatives and Labour — mixing a warning to the Chancellor over Budget tax giveaways with a message to Tony Blair that his windfall tax plans would land Labour in a legal morass.

Mr Turner said it was sensible to be talking to the shadow cabinet as well as keeping lines open with ministers. Welcoming Labour's move to the political centre, he added: "We want to see a lot of continuity. I don't think miracle cures are needed or desirable."

The CBI's break with its traditional backing for the



Adair Turner... warned against miracle cures

Conservatives has aroused little controversy in the employers' organisation. However, some observers believe Mr Turner will come under pressure as the election nears to come of the fence.

"We are going to maintain a neutral policy stance while commenting on individual

policies which we either agree or disagree with. I hope there will be no pressure. I have no intention of abandoning our neutrality," he said.

With the pound soaring on the exchanges, Mr Turner said any further rise would be "worrying". The CBI wanted to see any tightening of economic policy coming through a tougher Budget rather than higher interest rates.

"If Kenneth Clarke said he had no changes at all to make on the tax side, that would not be an unattractive Budget from our point of view," he added.

The CBI believes the Chancellor could hand out a maximum of £1 billion in tax cuts equivalent to only 0.5 pence off the basic rate of income tax — when he delivers his fourth Budget this month.

Mr Turner stressed that industry would be unhappy if pre-election tax cuts were at the expense of spending on infrastructure and education.

The CBI director general was careful to balance his warnings to Mr Clarke with a

strong attack on Labour's pledge to finance a job creation programme from a one-off levy on the profits of the privatised utilities.

Despite Labour's insistence that it can come up with a watertight formula for the tax, Mr Turner said it would be almost impossible for the Opposition to devise a workable definition either for excess profits or for which companies should be targeted.

Predicting that the tax would be "a real dog's breakfast", Mr Turner said: "They are going to find it immensely difficult to work out a coherent basis for the tax which is not arbitrary. If it is arbitrary, it will be contestable and is likely to be contested."

The CBI has softened its line on a minimum wage and the social chapter, however. It recognises that Labour would introduce a statutory floor for

wages, and is concentrating on ensuring that the wage is set at around £3 an hour.

On Europe, the CBI is calling for all options to be left open, including joining the single currency in the first wave. It will not be issue a line on whether the UK should sign up for monetary union until the middle of next year, after the election.

Adair unflustered; page 12

Lockerbie relatives offered £500,000 compensation

Bereaved father tells of anguish caused by delay in reaching a deal

Erfend Clouston

THE father of one of the Lockerbie air disaster victims yesterday criticised the delay in securing a compensation offer for relatives, believed to be about £500,000 for each death.

Reverend John Mosey called for bereaved families to receive immediately the £75,000 (about \$147,000) they are entitled to under international law, without prejudice to any subsequent legal action.

Rev Mosey, whose 19-year-old daughter Helga died with 258 others when Pan Am flight 103 blew up over Lockerbie eight years ago, made his comments after the secretary of the Lockerbie Air Disaster group confirmed that 14 British families were considering offers made by the airline's insurers.

Peter Watson, a Glasgow-based lawyer, would not confirm the details of the proposal achieved after years of legal battles with United States Aviation Underwriters, the main insurance company in the Lockerbie case.

"The families are in receipt of advice from us but I can't tell you what that is," said Mr Watson, who successfully challenged the conspiracy theories of Pan Am's insurers in the crucial 1992 New York trial which found the airline guilty of "wilful misconduct".

The families of the 11 ground victims of the terrorist act, which generated Scotland's largest criminal inquiry, settled their claims some time ago.

Rev Mosey, a Pentecostal minister, has recently been forced to leave his job at Glosop, in Derbyshire, because of the recurring stress of his daughter's death. Helga had been due to take up a nanny's job in New Jersey before returning to study music at Lancaster University.

"Something ought to be done so that people can receive at least the statutory carrier's liability immedi-

ately," he said yesterday. "It is a very expensive business, losing your child. We found, as most families found in the first two years, that we needed to run away at times."

The Moseys also had the expense of regular trips to London to lobby MEs.

The delay in a possible settlement was mainly due to the instincts of United States Aviation Underwriters to reduce their responsibility as much as possible.

Great Products?... **HAVE WE GOT SOME FOR YOU**

Also available on Video

Available from all good stockists

BBC

The haircuts that could gel with the voters

Thinning majority? How to stay ahead in style

Former Men's Hairdresser of the Year Damien Carney runs a celebrity salon in Covent Garden. His regular clients include Grace Jones, Jane Horrocks, and supermodel Karen Mulder. Here, he scrutinises the hairstyles of Tony Blair, Robin Cook, John Major and Michael Heseltine, and suggests some radical, follically challenging alternatives. LUKE HARDING reports.



TONY BLAIR: "He looks generally OK. He has got the advantage of youth. But since he became party leader he has lost quite a lot of hair and appears to have aged fairly rapidly." Marks: 6/10.

Solution: "A sort of hip short back and sides à la Sean Connery. It is a style very popular with women and works well regardless of age. He needs to lose some hair around the sides and the top."



MICHAEL HESELTINE: "He has a sort of Gish look for his age group. His hair is striking, quite long on the top and very long everywhere else." Marks: 7/10.

Solution: "He needs to get his eyebrows plucked. They are ridiculously bushy. His hair is halfway there but it needs a bit of a tweak. I would suggest keeping the same style but chopping a lot off the length."



ROBIN COOK: "The texture of his hair is a bit like Arthur Scargill's. He has mad, unruly hair and sometimes looks as if he has been dragged through a bush several times." Marks: 4/10.

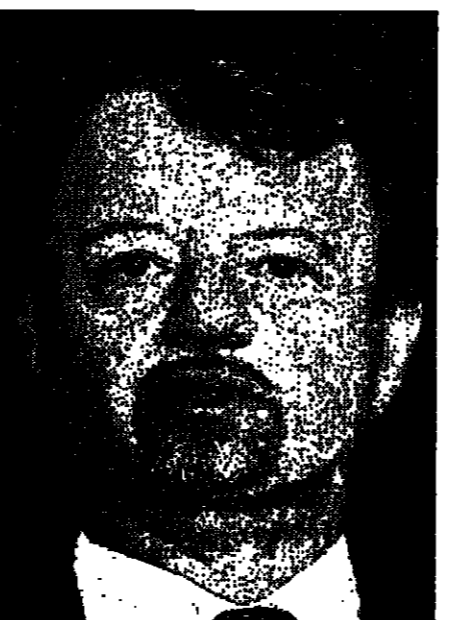
Solution: "He could benefit from using some styling products. Generally the effect of a beard is to accentuate the face. If you have hair like his the best thing to do is to go for short hair closely cropped."



JOHN MAJOR: "Pretty OK. He has grey hair and a grey skin complexion and they blend rather well into one another. He plays safe by covering his ears." Marks: 6/10.

Solution: "He would look sharper by having the hair cut away from his face. He should go to a trendy salon and have it layered on the top. He could also benefit from a bit of gel. If Norma were then to ruffle his hair a bit, he might even look, er, sexy."

ARTIST'S IMPRESSIONS: LIZ COULDWELL



Blair admits bald facts as stylists tackle gender gap

Michael White and Rebecca Smithers

TONY BLAIR finally admitted yesterday that he is losing his hair, but only to rebut allegations that he is restyling it to avoid losing votes as well.

The Labour leader's office took the rare step of issuing a press release containing "before and after" photos of Mr Blair (actually the same picture) to deride a report in the Financial Times under the headline "Blair wooes women voters with new hairstyle".

The newspaper, which last night stood by its story, reported that Mr Blair's "bouffant hairstyle" was one reason why he was less popular than John Major among female voters.

Historically Labour polls better among men, a "gender gap" the once-macho party has fought to narrow. The 9 per cent gap in the 1992 election was entirely due to over-55s, officials said last night, and had now been closed.

Women's groups doubt it. It was after focus group research on this key issue, the FT reported, that Mr Blair decided to make his language more women-friendly and to be seen in more feminine environments. He was also "flattening" his hairstyle.

TV archivists could find little evidence of it last night, though 43-year-old Mr Blair's admission, "my problem is not changing my hair, it's keeping it," is evident on film. It is receding from the front rather than suffering a monkish attack from the back.

There is, however, a core problem familiar to politicians since the age of TV politics began with Jack Kennedy in 1960. Except in super-sophisticated France, balding candidates such as Neil Kinnock tend to lose.

This may be why Labour's Bryan Gould admitted to standing on his head to improve blood circulation and fight off follicle decay.

The very notion that women voters may be susceptible to the crimpier MP's yesterday enraged female MPs close to Mr Blair, let alone that they had advised him to adopt a "softer" image and approach.

"It is outrageous and completely insulting to even suggest that the role of Labour's women MPs is to advise Tony Blair on his hairstyle," one frontbencher said. "And even more worrying is the suggestion that women are more interested in 'soft' than serious issues."

Helen Wilkinson, project director of the cross-party think-tank Demos and an expert on gender and generational shifts in women's attitudes, said one of the reasons for the marked decline in Mr Blair's support among women since March might be his transition from Bambi to Stalin.

"This has been a very tough year for Mr Blair. It could be that women are not very happy with the defensive image he has been projecting while he has been tackling the internal divisions within his party," she said.

Mary-Ann Stephenson, of the women's equality group Fawcett, insisted that the gender gap exists, and that it is also related to age. "Labour's largest poll lead is among women aged 18 to 24, and its smallest lead amongst women over 55. But what all the parties need to be worried about is the 23 per cent of women who have no idea yet how they are going to vote."

Bad-hair-day stories have troubled other politicians, including President Clinton (who remains popular with women voters). Blair aides none the less denounced what one called "the blackest day in the FT's proud history of journalism". The before and after photos were later issued by Labour's "rapid rebuttal unit (comedy section)".

Blair's bad hair day; page 9

Smokers 'more likely to get breast cancer'

Nick Varley

WOMEN who smoke heavily could be up to four times as likely to develop breast cancer, according to research that claims for the first time, a link between cigarettes and the disease.

American scientists say women smoking more than 20 cigarettes a day who also have damage to a gene that neutralises cancer-inducing chemicals in tobacco smoke are at significant risk.

But last night a leading British cancer expert, Professor Richard Peto, cast doubt on the findings, which could offer hope that some of the 25,000 women diagnosed with breast cancer in Britain each year could take preventive action.

"Just for once, smoking is being accused of something that it doesn't do," he said. The American researchers compared 324 New York women suffering from breast cancer with 327 healthy city women. In the smokers who also had the deformed gene — which occurs naturally, at rates of between 10 and 50 per cent of women, depending on race — cancer was four times as common.

The study, by researchers at the National Cancer Institute, near Washington DC, and the National Center for Toxicological Research, in Jefferson, Arkansas, is the latest to suggest a possible cause for breast cancer.

In the past it has been linked to eating too much fat, hormone replacement therapy, oral contraceptives and radiation. But, with the claimed link with a natural mutation found in up to half of white women, 35 per cent of African-Americans, 20 per cent of Chinese and 10 per cent of Asians, the new research is the first to suggest a genetic susceptibility.

A report on the work, due to be published in the Journal of the American Medical Association next week, appears today in New Scientist magazine.

But Professor Peto, co-director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's cancer studies unit, in Oxford, said: "Tobacco kills half of all regular smokers and is far and away the most important cause of cancer in women, but it doesn't have much effect on breast cancer. These new results must be largely due to the play of chance."

If the link to smoking is confirmed, however, it will be the latest breakthrough in a series that have offered increased knowledge of the disease in recent months.

One team of US scientists suggested last month that undergoing an abortion increased the chances of breast cancer by 30 per cent, though UK groups were sceptical.

Also last month, further work in America was claimed as conclusive proof of the general link between smoking and cancer. Scientists claimed they had found how tobacco smoke caused the changes that provoked mutations in the genes — again preventing their anti-cancer role — and allowing tumours to develop in the lung.

India contests London auction of Gandhi's 'old scribbles'

Kamal Ahmed

THE SALE of Mahatma Gandhi's handwritten speeches and letters, said to equal the greatest prime ministerial collections, was in jeopardy last night after pressure from the Indian government and the charitable trust charged with looking after the Gandhi archive.

Venkataram Kalyanam, the previous owner of the documents, sent a fax to Phillips on Tuesday saying he did not want the sale, which Phillips has described as outstanding, to go ahead.

Mr Kalyanam, who was one of Gandhi's secretaries in the 1940s and has looked after the documents for nearly 50 years, said he was forced to withdraw from the auction after the Navjeevan Trust, which owns the rights to Gandhi's work, said it had not been consulted.

The Indian government, concerned that the papers could be lost to America, backed the trust. The deputy director of the Nehru Memorial Museum in New Delhi

visited Mr Kalyanam in Madras to persuade him that the papers should be given to India's national archive.

The documents, which have been valued at \$1 million, include Gandhi's thoughts on independence, partition and the inter-communal violence which threatened to engulf India.

They were discovered in a suitcase which Mr Kalyanam had kept since he worked for Gandhi. Many are written with a reed pen, which Gandhi preferred to Western fountain pens, on the backs of envelopes and on scraps of paper.

"It was told that these old scribbles might be worth something in Europe," said Mr Kalyanam, who is in his seventies.

In January he gave them to a Hindu organisation in Hawaii which said the sale would fund a temple on the island of Kauai. The organisation has yet to respond to the request for the sale to be cancelled and John Parsons, Phillips's company secretary, said the matter was in the hands of its lawyers.

Labour lead cut to 13 points

continued from page 1
The swing to the Conservatives is nevertheless underlined in ICM's unadjusted figures. These results show a sharper swing to the Tories, with Labour on 48 per cent (down 6 points from October), Conservatives 33 (up 6), Liberal Democrats 15 (no change), and others 4 (down 1). The unadjusted Labour lead this month is 15 points (down 12). This is Labour's lowest unadjusted lead for three years.

There is further good news for the Conservatives in voters' views on the economy. Labour's lead as the party which has the best policies for dealing with the economy has been cut from 15 points in October to six points in November, giving the Chancellor the ideal platform on which to consolidate the pro-Tory trend on Budget Day.

ICM interviewed a random sample of 1,202 adults aged 18 and over by telephone between November 1-2. Interviews were conducted across the country and the results have been weighted to the profile of all adults.

In Germany and the Netherlands you can now get hold of the paper you're holding more easily.

The Guardian International gives you a European perspective on the latest news, including business, economics, sports and specialist features. As part of our initiative to make it more readily available, you can now take out a subscription.

The newspaper will be delivered to your home early each day at a reduced rate, so if you'd like the Guardian International more quickly and cheaply, simply get hold of a phone and call:

For the Netherlands: 016145-7300
or write to: Van Gelderen Import BV, Burgemeester Krollaan 14
NL-5126 PT GILZE

For Germany: 06205/955-0
or write to Press Service Thull GmbH, Subscription Department Postfach
16 40, 68759 Hockenheim

The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

Sarah, 52, and married for 20 years to a wealthy businessman who left her for his secretary in 1994, cannot be photographed or named because she is afraid that her ex would cut the maintenance if she spoke out.
Joanna Moorhead meets members of the real First Wives Club

62 Women page 4

4 BRITAIN

News in brief

Health staff cleared over care for killer

MEDICAL staff were yesterday cleared of blame over their treatment of psychopath Richard Burton, who stabbed his landlady to death while undergoing care in the community. Burton killed Janice Symons in her Leicester home in May last year. He later admitted manslaughter with diminished responsibility at Leicester crown court and in July last year was sent to Rampton high security hospital indefinitely. Leicester's health authority commissioned an independent inquiry into the case and its report, published yesterday, cleared medical staff of responsibility. During his trial it emerged that Burton, who had been treated for mental illness since 1983, had a severe psychopathic personality disorder. But the report said no one at the time considered him a danger to others. However, Mrs Symons was not told that Burton had been receiving treatment and her relatives today dismissed the findings and warned they would now consider taking further action.

Welsh drinkers optimistic

THE wets were last night cautiously optimistic about defeating the dries in the final showdown of the battle for the soul of the Welsh Sunday. Yesterday more than 90,000 north Welsh voters were invited to register an answer to the question: "Are you for or against the opening of licensed premises in the county of Gwynedd on Sundays for the sale of intoxicating liquor?" The whole of Wales was dry on Sundays for 11 years. But in 1983 local referendums, held every seven years, were introduced and since then the whole of Wales apart from a section of Gwynedd has voted to become wet. The Government has decreed that the latest vote will be binding for ever. — *David Ward*

Falklands war enemies meet

OLD enemies from the Falklands conflict were reconciled yesterday as the Argentine general Martin Balza, who spent two weeks as a prisoner of war in 1982, shook hands in London with the British commander General Sir Jeremy Moore. The Argentine general had asked to interrupt his official visit to the UK — the first at this level since the war ended — to meet the man who defeated him. — *David Fairhall*

US police in murder hunt

POLICE in the United States are hunting a gunman believed to have shot dead a British man and a woman. James Hancock, aged 32, from Gloucestershire, and the woman were killed in Pahump, Nevada, at the weekend, police said. Sgt Bill Becht said: "He met his girlfriend, or a girl, at the bar. They went to her residence, and an ex-boyfriend showed up there some time after they arrived home, and broke into the residence, firing numerous rounds into both her and him."

Customs seize bootleg vodka

CUSTOMS officers have seized 50 litres of bootleg vodka from Russian factory ships anchored on the south coast which officials say is so strong it can turn drinkers blind. The Russian home-brew was stored in bottles bearing the label 'Russiya Vodka' and customs officers fear some of it may have been passed on to locals buying cheap drinks for Christmas. The haul was discovered on board one of the ships anchored in Weymouth Bay, Dorset, and is being analysed by government scientists at a laboratory in Portsmouth.

153mph man back in trouble

A MOTORIST jailed after he set a British record for speeding on a motorway of 153 mph has admitted driving while disqualified. Achille Mazzotta, aged 33, from Swindon, Wiltshire, was clocked travelling at 153.9 mph in his BMW on the M5 in November 1995. He was jailed for six months and banned from driving until 1998. Now Mazzotta has pleaded guilty to a charge of driving while disqualified when he appeared before magistrates at Swindon yesterday after being spotted behind the wheel of a Mini Metro.

Blair will get a tough backroom fixer with the looks of a choirboy

Ian Katz on Bill Clinton's comeback kid

WHEN the romantic comedy *War Room* and remaining the closest adviser to both Mr Clinton and his wife, both of whom are said to be extremely fond of him. He is regarded as a left-leaning Democrat, but played a large part in repackaging President Clinton as a centrist after the drubbing suffered by the Democratic Party during the 1992 mid-term elections. Like Tony Blair, he is intensely religious, a faith acquired from his father and grandfather, both Greek Orthodox priests. Growing up in Cleveland, Ohio, Mr Stephanopoulos flirted with the priesthood before heading for Washington where he served as a congressional aide through most of the Reagan years. He cut his campaign teeth on Michael Dukakis's disastrous 1988 presidential bid, for the former Massachusetts governor of Arkansas, in 1991. As a senior member of the "War Room" Mr Stephanopoulos served as a damage-limitation wizard, somehow finding ways to defuse the scandals that threatened to derail his campaign. He also masterminded PR coups, such as Mr Clinton's relaxed appearances on chat shows and MTV. Puffed as Washington's brightest young star after Mr Clinton's 1992 win, Mr Stephanopoulos was less successful in his new job as communications director of a White House that was quickly under attack over a succession of policy bungles. As the face of the Clinton administration during the daily White House press briefings, he was criticised for seeming cocky and aggressive. Suddenly his sharp suits and fashionably coiffed mop of dark hair seemed too trendy and insubstantial. Admiring references to his grueling daily workout gave way to reports that he had dumped his longtime girlfriend for the movie actress, Jennifer Grey. When he was moved from the job of White House spokesman to an ill-defined role as senior adviser after the 1994 electoral disaster, Mr Stephanopoulos eventually prevailed. After Mr Morris pressed for President Clinton to launch a manned mission to Mars following the discovery of signs of life in a meteor, Mr Stephanopoulos acidly opened a meeting by announcing that he had good and bad news for his rival. The good news was that there would be a manned mission, the bad news was that Mr Morris would be the man. Though he has served as an effective proxy for Mr Clinton during the 1992 campaign, appearing at countless fundraisers and rallies, colleagues say Mr Stephanopoulos's greatest skill is in packaging potentially unpopular policies and countering the attacks of political opponents. He was credited with devising the President's "mend, don't end" policy, which preserved most government affirmative action programmes in the face of a widespread public revolt against the idea of positive discrimination. He also won plaudits for masterminding the White House's effort to paint Republican leaders as irresponsible extremists after a stand-off over the budget led to closure of the federal government. Announcing his decision to leave the White House early in President Clinton's second term, Mr Stephanopoulos said he was physically exhausted. "I've had a great run, a great ride, but it feels like I'm done... I can't do it any more." Like President Clinton, Mr Stephanopoulos won a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford, where he studied political theology. A wrestler and soccer player at college, he was enthusiastic about English football but said he found English women "cold".



George Stephanopoulos, right, with Bill Clinton and the presidential counsellor Mack McLarty. PHOTOGRAPH BY BENJAMIN WATZ

Hard-up UK citizens fall below European Union poverty line

Stephen Bates in Brussels

NEARLY one household in six in Britain is living below the poverty line, putting the country on a par with some of the poorest states in the European Union, according to a report published yesterday. It says Britain is investing less in its regions than other EU countries, that employment growth in old industrial regions such as South Yorkshire and the West Midlands is among the most sluggish in Europe and that productivity is low. The Cohesion Report, published by the European Commission in Brussels, was intended to highlight the progress made across the EU to even out regional disparities between rich and poor areas, but it also showed that income differences within member states have remained largely unchanged over the past 10 years. The richest and poorest member states, the gap in wealth has diminished, with the EU's poorest states, Ireland, Greece, Spain and Portugal, showing gains in per capita income from about two-thirds to three-quarters of average European incomes. The commission has fought shy however of suggesting that EU regional aid to Ireland and Portugal should be rumped. Monika Wulf-Mathies, the German regional policy commissioner, said: "The EU's structural policies do work in narrowing the gap between rich and poor but there is still a lot to be done." The figures show that whereas other European states pump money into their regions, the process is reversed in Britain, despite the Government's lip-service to the principle of devolving authority. The report points up a comparison between Brittany and East Anglia, which have similar levels of prosperity. While the French government donates the equivalent of three per cent of Britain's gross domestic product to the region, East Anglia transfers three per cent of its GDP to the state. On poverty — defined as households having less than 50 per cent of the national average income — Britain fares among the worst of the EU states. It has about 17 per cent of all households on or below the poverty line — the same as Spain and only a little ahead of Greece and Italy — way behind Germany (11 per cent) or the Benelux countries (five per cent). The report brackets British income in some regions with

the peasant economies of southern Europe and the west of Ireland, and "rust belt" of the former Eastern bloc. It states: "Income per head is below average in all the southern peripheral Mediterranean regions as well as ... in Ireland and parts of the UK." But it acknowledges that unemployment has declined in Britain — which no longer features among the list of the 25 worst regional blackspots as it did in 1983 when no less than eight of the EU's worst areas were in Britain. Leaders of the European Parliament in Brussels met last night to discuss urgent reforms to stop the abuse by MEPs of expenses and allowances. Public concern has mounted over the payments claimed by MEPs for their monthly visits to parliamentary sessions in Brussels and Strasbourg.

British Medical Association defines limits of doctors' duties

GPs' leaders call for extra pay to cover care for the elderly

David Brindley, Social Services Correspondent

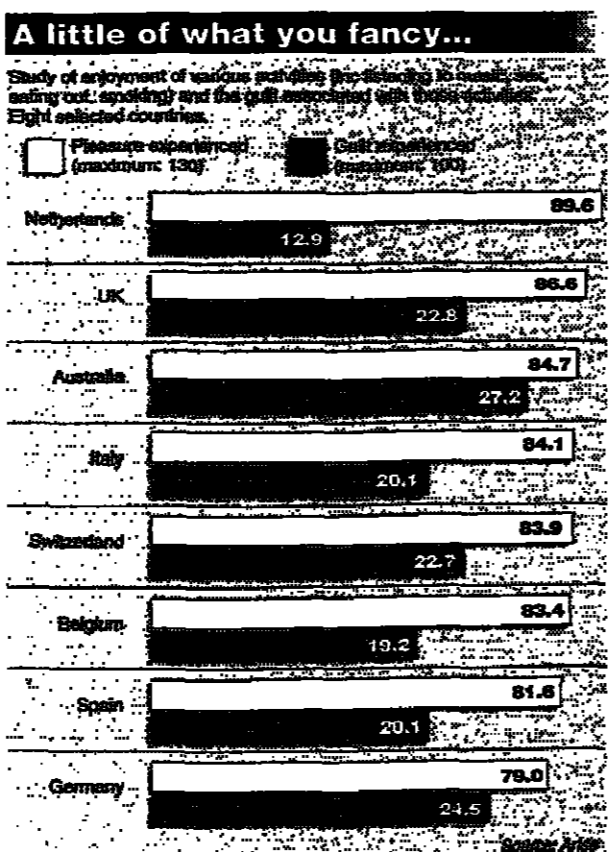
LEADERS of 36,000 family doctors yesterday advised them to refuse to take on any new elderly patients in care homes unless they are paid extra. The move, which could eventually affect 500,000 people in care homes, came as the British Medical Association drew a line around what it considers general practitioners are contractually required to do, and set out more than 80 examples of "non-core" tasks for which it says they should seek additional payment. The association issued every GP with *pro forma* letters to send to health authorities to demand extra payment. The BMA says it has been forced to act by the growing trend of hospitals passing the burden — and costs — of care to GPs, who have an open-ended contract. By defining core services, it will protect the essential family doctor service from erosion by new expectations of it in areas such as minor surgery, com-

plex drug therapies and care of severely mentally ill people. Critics, on the other hand, will see the move as a thinly-veiled attempt to get extra payments for GPs for all future service developments — and many that have already taken place. The pay structure for GPs is complex, but designed to give them an average net remuneration of £44,770. Some have already negotiated contracts with their local health authorities for extra pay for tasks formerly undertaken by hospitals. The most contentious of the BMA's ideas is that GPs should withdraw from care homes for people in nursing and residential homes, continuing to treat people already on their practice lists but refusing any further registrations without special payment. Dr Bogle said the elderly residents of such homes would in the past have been cared for on hospital geriatric wards. They had high levels of dependency and high costs which had been shunted into the primary-care sector. "They require an approach that resembles the old ward rounds in hospitals. General practice is not geared up to cope with this demand." However, Dr Bogle said, GPs could tender for contracts to supply services to care homes if they felt they had the necessary experience and if the contract income would enable them to continue providing full care services to their registered patients. Chris Vellenoweth, for the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts, said care home residents had the same right as every other citizen to register with a GP. "I do not believe that right can be extinguished by a view being taken by a particular group of interests." However, the Age Concern spokesman warned: "If health authority contracts for GP care in residential and nursing homes are not in place in time, here is a real risk that older people will end up in hospitals if home managers have nowhere else to turn."

'Guilty' Britons told to enjoy life

Sarah Bosley

WE BRITISH are a pleasure-loving nation, according to Professor Warburton, the United Kingdom came second in the pleasure league, but third in the guilt league out of eight countries where attitudes were polled. Most laid-back were the Dutch, who enjoyed themselves the most, and felt the least guilt. Professor Warburton is founder of a group of some 60 scientists worldwide with the tongue-in-cheek acronym of Arise — the Association for Research into the Science of Enjoyment. But the science is serious, he says. Enjoyment revves stress and enhances the immune system, they have found, while guilt is potentially damaging. "In its extreme, guilt can impair attentiveness making people forgetful and more prone to error," he said. "Chronic guilt can induce stress and depression which could lead to eating disorders and contribute to infection, ulcers, heart problems and even brain damage." Those activities people feel most guilty about are the lack of sport and exercise, cakes and ice cream, smoking and eating chocolate. In the "second division" come beer, wine and spirits, shopping for pleasure, TV and videos. In the third division are red meat, sex, cheese, cream and butter, eating out and tea and coffee.



GCHQ staff association 'not an independent trade union'

THE Government faces renewed international criticism of its ban on unions at the electronic spy centre GCHQ after the "sweetheart" staff federation yesterday refused a certificate of independence by the Government-appointed trade union certification officer, writes *Seumas Milne*. The surprise ruling follows a government attempt to head off condemnation by the International Labour Organisation earlier this year by vetoing the GCHQ director's lifting over the federation's leadership. But Ted Whybrow, the certification officer, found that the federation, set up by the Government after trade union membership was banned at GCHQ in 1984 — could still not be described as free of interference or domination by the employer. The federation was still restricted to GCHQ employees, he said, blocked from outside affiliations and links, banned from taking industrial action, dependent on employer-provided facilities and its members had restricted access to industrial tribunals. The finding will ease pressure on Labour, which is publicly committed to restoring full union rights at GCHQ, but made clear earlier this year that it might recognise the staff federation if it was registered as an independent trade union. The federation is thought to have around 2,000 members out of the 5,000 civilians now working at GCHQ.

Mini-mice offer prospect of longer lives to shorter people

SHORTIES may have the last laugh according to research which suggests a link between small size and long life expectancy. Scientists in America have found that dwarf mice with a hormone deficiency live up to twice as long as normal sized ones — and the reason appears to be the lack of growth hormone. In other studies mice with too much growth hormone have died earlier due to premature ageing. Restricting calorie intake, which reduces growth hormone secretion, has also been found to extend lifespan in rodents — while reduced lifespan has been reported in human patients with excess growth hormone who suffer from gigantism. In a letter to the science journal *Nature*, the researchers led by Holly Brown-Borg from North Dakota university wrote: "Small breeds of dogs and horses tend to live longer than larger breeds, and shorter people may live longer than taller people from the same population." The genetically engineered Ames dwarf mice used in the research are missing the pituitary cells which produce growth hormone. The team compared 28 normal and 34 dwarf mice which were kept in the same conditions and fed the same food. They found the dwarfs lived much longer, with a difference of more than 350 days for males and more than 470 days for females.

Handwritten text in Arabic script: "سبحان الله"

The president is back in charge, on paper at least

Surgeon talks up Yeltsin's recovery

David Hearst in Moscow

PRESIDENT Boris Yeltsin, surprising doctors with the pace of his recovery after quintuple heart bypass surgery, resumed full presidential duties yesterday and began lobbying doctors to let him leave hospital.

On waking yesterday at 6am, the patient signed a decree taking back the full powers of the presidency, including control of the nuclear button, which he had surrendered to his prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, 23 hours before. Mr Chernomyrdin said: "That means that the president is already at work."

The prime minister said he then briefed the president on events that had taken place in Russia while the operation was being carried out.

The American heart bypass pioneer, Dr Michael DeBakey, meanwhile declared that he doubted whether President Yeltsin could have continued as the leader of Russia for much longer had he not had the operation.

Dr DeBakey said that when he examined Mr Yeltsin for the first time in September, his heart was only working at 20 per cent efficiency. "He was incapacitated, considerably incapacitated... He couldn't have carried on for much longer. Just working two or three hours a day at the hospital was beginning to exhaust him."

Yesterday doctors said they had bypassed five clogged arteries around the president's heart. This revelation showed the extent of the damage they found, and cast doubt in Moscow medical circles over how full a recovery Mr Yeltsin could make.

Dr DeBakey was unambiguously optimistic, predicting that the president would be back at work in two months, and playing tennis "within three or four". He said the

Dr DeBakey said the president would be playing tennis within three or four months

fact that the heart started promptly after being stopped for 68 minutes during the surgery was "one of the best signs we have".

Sergei Yastrzhembsky, the presidential spokesman, said Mr Yeltsin was already pressing to leave the Cardiology Research Centre, where the operation was performed, for the elite Central Clinical hospital, where he was prepared for the operation, because he felt more at home there.

Mr Yastrzhembsky said doctors would meet again today to discuss the move.

After meeting Mr Yeltsin yesterday, Dr DeBakey said he was delighted by his condi-

tion and warned him not to take things too fast.

"I said: 'You must be very patient because I know that you want to get going'. But I said: 'You know it's very important that you follow the doctors' instructions'."

A medical bulletin released yesterday afternoon said the recovery process was proceeding normally in line with doctor's expectations and without complications.

These statements create the impression of a president on the mend. News of Mr Yeltsin's third heart attack in July created a major political crisis and triggered a battle for influence within the Kremlin.

● The atmosphere of scandal surrounding recent government appointments did not abate yesterday as the Jerusalem Post confirmed reports that the new deputy chairman of the security council is an Israeli citizen.

Boris Berезovsky, a tycoon and cohort of the president's chief of staff, Anatoli Chubais, has promised to sue the Russian newspaper Ivestia for breaking the story, but in a television interview did not deny the central claim that he obtained dual citizenship in 1993.

Mr Berезovsky said a campaign against his appointment was anti-Semitic. But the editor of Ivestia and its chief reporters are Jewish, and say the issue at stake is whether the citizen of another country should have access to Russia's security secrets.



One refugee child feeds another yesterday at a Rwandan camp outside Gisenyi, near the border with Zaire. PHOTOGRAPH: PETER ANDREWS

France and Spain urge 5,000-strong refugee aid force

Chris McGreal in Goma and Foreign Staff

SPAIN and France want to send a multinational force of at least 5,000 troops to open humanitarian corridors for a million starving refugees in Zaire, the foreign ministry said in Madrid yesterday. Under French prompting, United States officials are considering supplying logistics backup.

The plans, which will be discussed by President Jacques Chirac and John Major at their summit tomorrow, are given extra urgency by a United Nations report accusing Hutu extremists recently driven from their bases in eastern Zaire of plotting to invade Rwanda with the backing of Zaire, Kenya and unnamed European countries.

French and Spanish leaders discussed the intervention at a summit in Marseille on Monday and Tuesday. "It is a concrete proposal by France and Spain. In the first phase, the troops will secure humanitarian corridors for food and medicine," said a spokesman. France would send about 1,000 troops, Spain would send fewer, and the two countries hope the US and others will contribute the rest. But no other country has committed itself to sending troops, he said.

The UN report says that since fleeing into exile after organising the genocide of Rwanda's Tutsis more than two years ago, Hutu fanatics have travelled freely on passports provided by Zaire. They have raised large amounts of money by printing counterfeit US dollars in Kenya and by collecting a "war tax" from the 1.7 million Rwandan refugees in Zaire and Tanzania, the report claims. The

money has been used to buy weapons, delivered via Zaire and Kenya, in preparation for an invasion of Rwanda.

The report — by a commission investigating continuing arms shipments to the former Rwandan army and Hutu militants in breach of an international embargo — will boost sympathy for Rwanda's thinly-veiled operation to shut the sprawling refugee camps on its borders and establish a buffer zone to keep the extremists at bay.

Although Rwanda continues to deny it is backing the rebellion in eastern Zaire, there is growing evidence to the contrary, including the presence of many Kinyarwanda-speaking insurgents.

The commission is continuing to investigate claims that an unidentified British company transported arms to Goma, a main base for Hutu extremists amid the sprawling refugee camps which fell to rebels at the weekend.

While Zaire and Tanzania are the centre of military activity, Nairobi is the heart of the exiles' political and financial organisation, according to the report.

Thousands of refugees are escaping the bloodshed in eastern Zaire by making a hazardous 45-mile crossing of Lake Tanganyika in small boats to Tanzania, aid workers said yesterday. The UN World Food Programme is shuttling supplies to the town of Kigoma, on the Tanzanian shore of the lake, to feed the arrivals.

● South Africa has suspended a deal to supply arms to the Rwandan government after discussions with regional leaders and in light of reports of cross-border incursions by Kigali, the foreign affairs department in Pretoria said yesterday.

News in brief

Algerian rebels slit 31 civilians' throats

MUSLIM fundamentalists killed 31 people in an Algerian village on Tuesday night, security forces said. The raid took place in Sid el-Kebr, Blida province, 30 miles south of Algiers. The interior minister, Mustapha Ben Mansour, described the attack, the second in three nights, as "ignoble savagery". The victims were all civilians, he said. In the previous attack, 13 people had their throats cut at the weekend. A statement carried by the official Algerian news agency APS, said the victims had been "assassinated in a cowardly way" — a phrase that has been used in Algeria to describe the cold-blooded killing of victims by cutting their throats. About 60,000 people have been killed since January 1992, when the authorities cancelled a general election which the Islamic Salvation Front looked poised to win. — *Reuters, Paris.*

Serbs blew up refugee homes

BOSNIAN Serb authorities blew up 96 Muslim homes after the United Nations provided a list of their refugee owners who had applied to visit the properties. UN officials said yesterday. "The Serbs simply matched the 96 names to 96 abandoned homes and demolished the homes," said Kris Janowski, the spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Bosnia. "What is so discouraging is that our effort to bring people back together again was used to cement ethnic cleansing." The homes were blown up on October 24 near Prijedor, in an operation that UN and Nato sources suspect was backed or carried out by local paramilitary police. — *Reuters, Sarajevo.*



Nate Thornton from San Francisco embraces Cuban fellow International Brigades veteran Luis Rubiales in Madrid yesterday on the 60th anniversary of their arrival to fight Gen Franco's fascists in the civil war. PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL WHITE

Iceland volcano erupts

THE eruption of an Icelandic volcano sent clouds of ash and smoke soaring 14,000ft into the air yesterday. The unexpected eruption took place as a torrent of water and ice poured from the sides of the glacier that covers the remote volcano in south-east Iceland. Previous eruptions have produced a huge hidden lake that is now spilling over. — *Reuters, Reykjavik.*

Rich man's road causes rage

MOTORISTS prepared to spend nearly £4 on a 13-mile commuter ride swept into Paris from the western suburbs yesterday morning on a near-empty new toll motorway to La Defense business centre. The rest of the eastbound traffic stood immobilised in the daily snarl-up on the parallel, toll-free, A13 motorway while drivers fumed against what has been called *l'autoroute des riches*. Protests dogged the nine-year construction period of Paris's first suburban tollway. The A14 cost more than £500 million, making it the most expensive road, mile-for-mile, ever built in France. The intention was to drain traffic from the Normandy tollway, which is free in the Paris suburbs. But yesterday it was predicted that only 10 per cent of motorists could afford to use the A14. More cars might have been attracted but towns along the route refused access roads. — *Paul Webster, Paris.*

The Guardian INTERNATIONAL



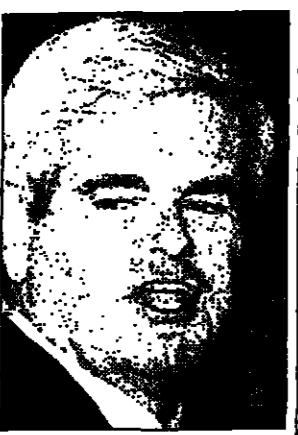
available all over Europe

A victory for the middle ground

Olive branch hides threat

REPUBLICANS/Truce offers will not lift Whitewater pressure reports Martin Walker

THE Republican congressional leader, Newt Gingrich, yesterday opened his battle to retain his post as Speaker of the House of Representatives by claiming a "historic victory", despite losing 10 seats in Congress.



Peace offensive: Republican congressional leader Newt Gingrich (top) and Senate leader Trent Lott

Republicans won a second consecutive congressional majority for the first time in 83 years. Mr Gingrich said, hoping to deflect the grumblings against him from the party's right wing, and instantly held out an olive branch to President Bill Clinton.

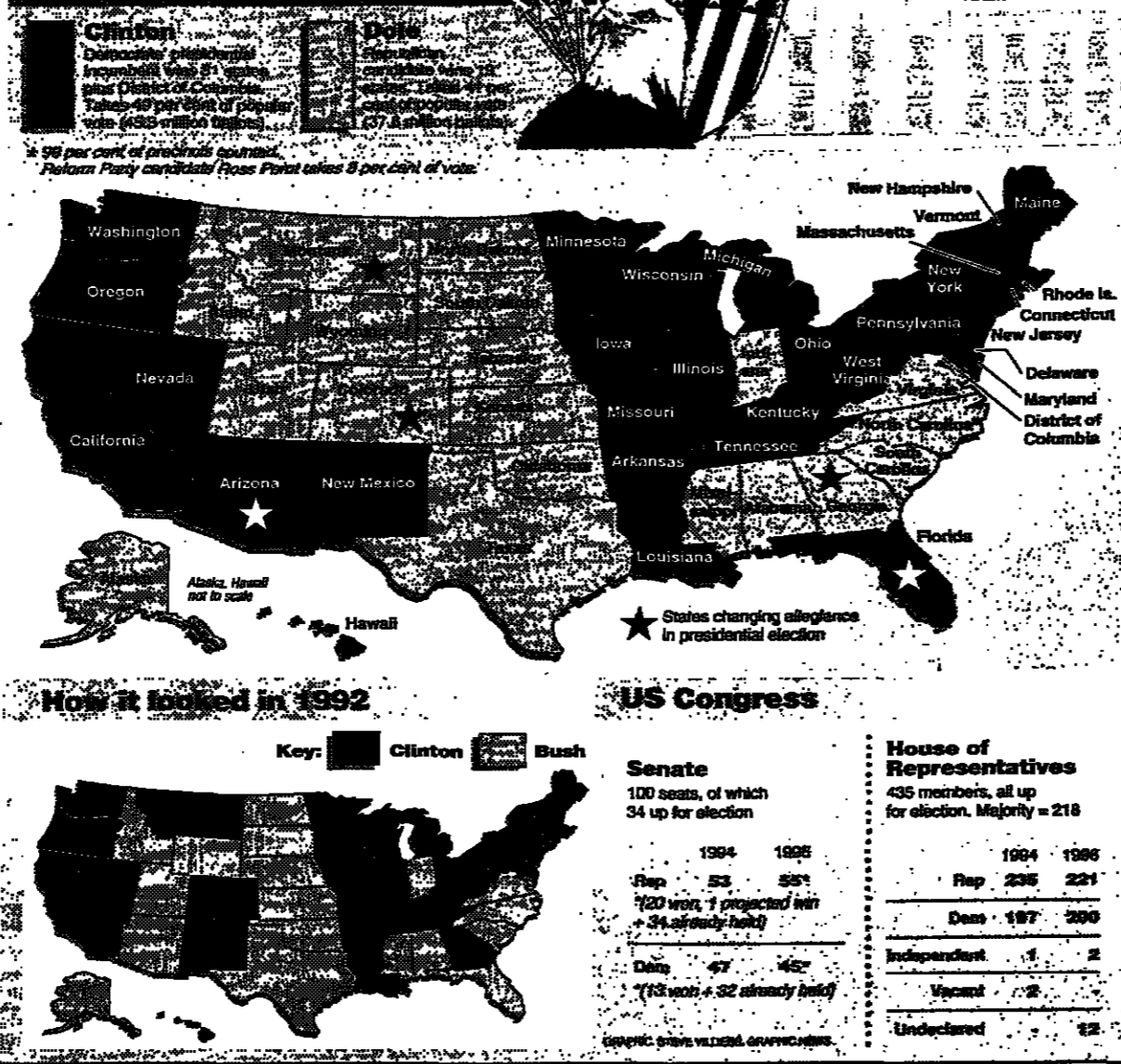
The main message of this election, Bill Clinton said he was for less government and less taxes. He talked like a Republican. If he means that sincerely, we can work together on continuing to reduce the deficit and balance the federal budget. I think we can come to an agreement on some tax cuts that would be good for the economy and help with economic growth and make the tax code fairer.

These emollient words should not be taken at face value. Behind the scenes at the Republican national committee headquarters yesterday, senior officials told the Guardian: "As soon as he announces a single pardon for those convicted of Whitewater offences, we've got him."

The Republicans are determined to keep up congressional inquiries into the Whitewater affair, and to open new ones into dubious Clinton campaign finance connections with Indonesian and American Iraqi doctors and with a shady Russian businessman.

"I assume there is going to be an independent counsel. We will have to have some occasion to fulfill our responsibility to have some hearings, to look at what happened. Mr Lott said. "There appear to be a lot of abuses and corruption in the campaign. We need to take a look at that, and see what we need to do."

The results



A small step to the right

THE SENATE/The Republicans' grip is firmer, writes Gary Younge

REPUBLICANS were yesterday celebrating their achievement in retaining control of both houses of Congress for the first time in 88 years, as they increased their hold on the Senate.

Call to end division politics

THE HOUSE/Compromise is the new reality, writes Gary Younge

PRESIDENT Clinton offered an olive branch to the House Speaker, Newt Gingrich, last night, after voters returned the Republicans to control of the lower chamber with a reduced but comfortable majority.

Mr Clinton can look forward to a brief legislative honeymoon. "I think the next two years will be like the last six months of the 1996 session. Even if we prevail, Republicans will be chastened," said a moderate re-elected Republican, referring to the final legislative burst which produced reform of welfare and health care and a rise in the minimum wage.

Mr Gingrich said working together would be easier, since Mr Clinton had adopted so much of the Republican agenda: "I think that we have an obligation quite frankly to reach out to the new re-elected president who, after all, has been doing all the things we said we were for."

Exit polls indicate that Republican candidates performed best in the south and broke even in the mid-west, while Democrats led in the east and west and picked up most of the undecided voters.

With 12 races still undecided, Democrats were set to gain between five and 10 House seats. They had 200 seats, to the Republicans' 221, out of a total 435. Two seats went to independents. In the last session of the House, Republicans held a 236 to 197 majority, with one independent and two vacancies. President Clinton said voters had sent both parties a message to work together.

Voters prescribe cannabis for sick

REFERENDUMS/Plebiscites decide pressing local concerns, writes Christopher Reed

CALIFORNIA'S electorate has struck down a 30-year-old civil rights law that helped minorities and women to overcome prejudice in hiring and education. Their decision could now become a national trend.

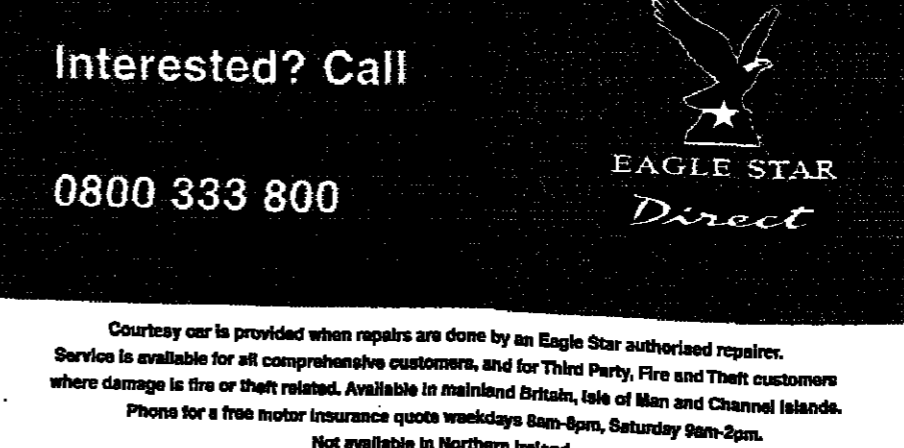
In California, which at 15 had the most plebiscite proposals, Proposition 209 won by 55-45 per cent, a clear victory for conservatives and opponents declare. Its misleading title, Prohibition Against Discrimination or Preferential Treatment, and a judge's refusal to allow the phrase "affirmative action" to appear on the ballot description, may have confused many potential opponents. Its racial undertones were hidden in the little known fact that a major fi-

Local Mini Cabs

FREE PHONE 0800-21-31-44 (We pay for your call) CARS BIKES VANS

OR insure with Eagle Star and get a free courtesy car after an accident.

Interested? Call 0800 333 800



WHILE STOCKS LAST!... GIVE YOURSELF 6 OF THE BEST EXCLUSIVE PLAYSTATION DEAL PACK SONY PLAYSTATION PLUS RIDGE RACER TEKKEN WORMS THUNDERHAWK 2 THEME PARK RAYMAN ONLY... £299.99 PLAYSTATION SOLUS PRICE £199.99

Clinton 'work' STRATEGY

Clinton 'work' STRATEGY

What... FIRST LADY... 30th March...

A bolder FOREIGN REACT... E

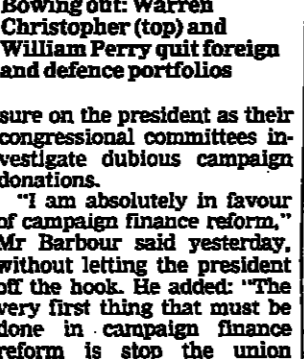
Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom center of the page.

Democrats celebrate four more years

Clinton vows to 'work together'

STRATEGY/The new aim is to be bipartisan, write Martin Walker and Jonathan Freedland

President Bill Clinton returned to a tumultuous start welcome at the White House yesterday after a re-election victory that was tinged with disappointment as final results showed he had fallen short of a majority mandate, winning just over 49 per cent of the popular vote.



Bowing out: Warren Christopher (top) and William Perry quit foreign and defence portfolios

Mr Clinton won a sweeping victory in the Electoral College, winning 379 votes to Bob Dole's 159, and carrying 31 states and the District of Columbia to Mr Dole's 19 states. Mr Dole was not trounced; Mr Clinton actually won one less state than he carried four years ago, despite his victories in Florida and Arizona.

bosses taking the money of their members and spending that dues money for political purposes.

Pursuing the theme of "Common Ground" Mr Clinton yesterday weighed the names of Republicans, from retired general Colin Powell to Senator Richard Lugar, to replace Warren Christopher as secretary of state.

There is also strong speculation that the retired Republican senator William Cohen of Maine, who writes thrillers in his spare time, is to be offered the job of director of the Central Intelligence Agency, once John Deutch replaces the defence secretary, William Perry.

Such bipartisan appointments have a long tradition. President John Kennedy appointed a Republican treasury secretary, Douglas Dillon, and President Nixon appointed a Democratic governor of Texas, John Connally, to the same post.

Other changes loomed at the White House, where the chief of staff, Leon Panetta, is retiring to make a run for California governor. The chief economic adviser, Laura Tyson, plans to return to academic and family life in California, while George Stephanopoulos is poised to resign as Mr Clinton's closest aide.

"The president wants to move relatively quickly, and in a bipartisan fashion, for his second administration," Mr Stephanopoulos told the Guardian yesterday. "The president has shown that he can work with a Republican Congress."

"So few presidents in history have had the opportunity he has of a second term. He recognises that, and he won't waste a moment. He is unburdened from the tension that is with you when you face an election every few years."

There are strong Democratic contenders for any vacated cabinet posts - including the former senators Sam Nunn of Georgia and George Mitchell of Maine. The United Nations ambassador, Madeleine Albright, is also in the running for the state department.

Mr Clinton will seek to avoid contentious issues, such as Medicare and pensions reform, by appointing a bipartisan presidential commission, which Mr Dole may be invited to lead.

Leader comment, page 8; Notebook, page 11



President Clinton hugs daughter Chelsea and wife Hillary as they watch a fireworks display during the election night rally in Little Rock

Little Rock rocks for favourite son

THE PARTY/But victory tasted sweeter first time round, writes Jonathan Freedland

FOR one night Little Rock was to be the biggest city in America. Swelling with pride, thousands of Arkansians had descended on the handful of streets that make up the heart of their state capital to drink, dance and celebrate a victory for their favourite son.

They came early, dressed in full Clinton-Gore regalia. "Bill Clinton, America's Choice," declared one T-shirt. "Victory!" rejoiced another. And, most optimistic of all: "Hillary is a Babe."

It looked like a carnival on Markham Street with banners of red, white and blue, a summery evening and enough beer and music to last the night.

The locals munched on Arkansas rope sausage hoagies or the election day special, presidential pitas.

"Enjoy yourselves, look your best - remember the whole world is watching," said the announcer. For them, this was a chance to toast not just the first Arkansian president, but themselves.

"We've been ground up and spat out," said Henry Hodges, a Little Rock city councillor who is sick of four years under the media microscope.

Sending one of their own to Washington was meant to be a ride. Instead Whitewater and the other scandals had seen Arkansians ridiculed as America's most ethically-challenged people.

"We had a lot of battle scars," said Mr Hodges on his way to the hot food stalls. "Tonight we're healing."

But vindication lacks the charge of new victory. A mood of anti-climax hovered over the re-election party. Reunions are rarely as much fun as the first meeting, and the revellers of Little Rock were nostalgic for the time four years ago when all this was unknown.

"Back then it was more exciting," said Rick Taylor, pondering the purchase of a china Democratic donkey.

"It was new to the city, now we're all used to it." A few blocks away, more than 15,000 people jammed outside the Old State House to hear Mr Clinton's victory speech - just as they did four years ago.

The warm-up entertainment came from so-called jumbotrons - giant television screens and electronic scoreboards flashing up constant good news.

"Clinton-Gore wins Arizona" earned the night's loudest cheer, providing as it did proof that the Democrats could take even the most Republican terrain.

Opera diva Jessye Norman sang America the Beautiful. "From the mountains to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam..." She could have been hailing the scale of the Clinton landslide.

But somehow the mood of baths persisted, even affecting the victor. President Clinton gave a good speech but, unusually, read from a text.

What will they do with Hillary?

FIRST LADY/A public role for Mrs Clinton is still uncertain, argues Martin Walker

THE tableau was Christ-mas card perfect and impeccably staged for the TV cameras. President Clinton, looking dreamily up to the skies where the victory fireworks display exploded across the Arkansas night, held his wife and his daughter in his arms.

That was the new image of Hillary Rodham Clinton offered to the American public yesterday, the dutiful wife and good mother. And it stood in stark contrast to the stealth campaign she has relentlessly waged for her husband.

The TV cameras did not see much of her on the campaign trail, but she never stopped work as her husband's personal ambassador to the Democratic faithful. In October, Mrs Clinton was holding up to six meetings a day at carefully staged fundraisers and at rallies for invited guests of the National Organisation of Women, abortion rights groups, teachers' unions and state Democratic parties.

Her personal campaign was something of a job interview, an attempt to restore herself to public prominence after the humiliating defeat of her health reform plan in 1994.

The Clintons are planning to repeat the Hillary trick of Arkansas, 1988, when she took a year off from her law firm and spent it holding public meetings in every county in the state, an extraordinary consultation process on her husband's big reform of the

Her personal campaign was an attempt to restore herself to public prominence

state's education system. Now Mr Clinton plans a second term in which education will be the big theme.

There will be no obvious policy-making role for Hillary; that was the mistake of health care, when the public became edgy at the thought of a female co-president who had never been elected. Instead, she is tipped to take the public relations spotlight not just to sell the education reforms, but to go around the

House counsel Vince Foster. The original financial embarrassments of Arkansas have increasingly been overtaken by events inside the White House: whether Mrs Clinton sought to obstruct investigators by withholding Whitewater documents, and whether she misled federal officials when she denied any responsibility for the sacking of the White House travel office staff.

These raise the serious possibility that she could be indicted, if not for perjury, then for the lesser charges of making false statements or obstruction of justice. But since these events took place in Washington, she would in such a worst case face a local jury, drawn from a largely black and overwhelmingly Democratic population.

As a whole, the fuss over the Whitewater controversy is ebbing. The voters did not seem over-concerned by it, and successive legal and congressional inquiries have failed to endorse the more sinister conspiracy theories about the death of the White

But Hillary remains, as she has been throughout the first term, the big problem of the Clinton presidency. Too able and ambitious to settle into a purely cosmetic role, too controversial to be allowed back into that spotlight which nearly destroyed her as the Whitewater mess coincided with the defeat of her health reform in 1994. That was the low point for her, made worse by a terrifyingly hostile reception at a public meeting in Seattle, and then by the murder of a doctor at an abortion clinic in Florida. She became haunted for a while by fears of assassination attempts.

A bolder actor on world stage

FOREIGN REACTION/Europe is hoping for signs of greater flexibility, writes Ian Black

EXPECTATIONS of an active global role await the re-elected Bill Clinton: from pursuing more balanced diplomacy in the Middle East, through peace-making in Northern Ireland and Bosnia, to finding a new United Nations secretary-general.

Government officials hailed his world yesterday on grounds of continuity and stability, though many are hoping for a retreat from the unilateralism of Mr Clinton's first term.

European Union members, including Britain, want to see a softer line from Washington on extra-territorial trade sanctions: the Helms-Burton Act on Cuba and parallel leg-

islation against Iran and Libya were both driven by domestic lobbies which had to be accommodated in a campaign year.

Iran struck a sour note, insisting the election result would mean the US would maintain its "interventionist and arrogant" policies. But Arab governments expressed hope for greater US involvement in the peace process with Israel.

"Any president who is elected for a second term has more freedom of manoeuvre," said Marwan Muasher, Jordan's information minister.

But the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, insisted: "The whole idea that

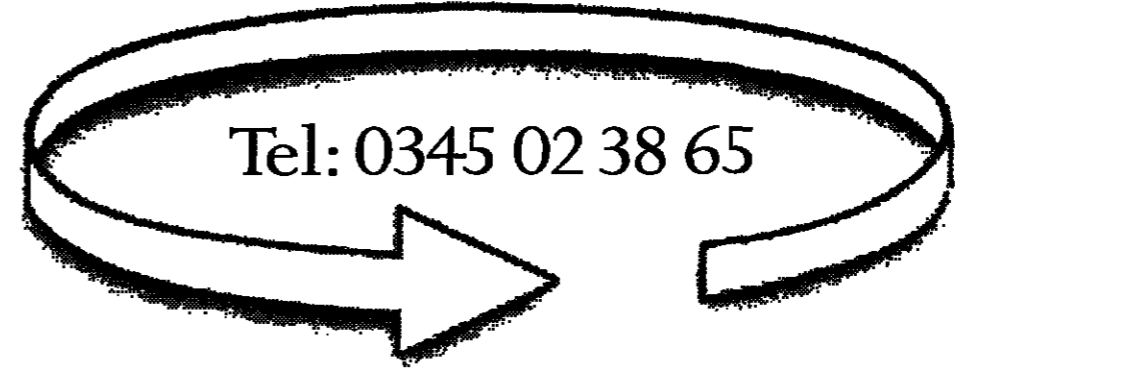
local crises and determined support for the engagement of Nato," said a Hungarian foreign ministry spokesman.

But Mr Clinton's wings will be clipped by cuts in the funding of US diplomacy over the past few years and by the fact that the Republicans still control Congress.

David Sharrock adds from Belfast: Mr Clinton's re-election was warmly received in Ireland, where politicians of nearly all persuasions - including most Unionists - now believe his involvement in Ulster's peace process has been valuable.

Renewed US input - even if possible promotion for Senator George Mitchell means his forfeiture of the chairmanship of the political talks in Belfast - will strengthen Sinn Fein's case to its military wing, the IRA, that negotiation is the best way forward.

BUYING COMPAQ COMPUTERS WITH HUGE SAVINGS COULDN'T BE EASIER. WE'VE EVEN RINGED THE NUMBER FOR YOU.



Advertisement for Compaq computers. Includes text: 'Buying a computer for the first time or as a seasoned technology expert, decisions are always made by the head and the wallet and seldom the heart.' Price tag: £899. CareFREE 36 3 year on site warranty. ORDER HOTLINE Tel: 0345 02 38 65. Technology Online 01925 830040.

A triumph for Clinton
But look who is not voting for the president

SO BILL CLINTON won nearly 50 per cent of the popular vote: a triumph for a president who in mid-term was being labelled a probable second time loser. But only the same percentage of all eligible citizens could be bothered to vote at all: a failure which had been predictable all along. Once again the election of the world's most powerful democracy falls a long way short of the ideal. The American people are judged by commentators to have endorsed continuity and the politics of the centre — hence the paradox of victory for a Democratic president while his party fails to win back the House or Senate. Yet the message which the American people actually delivered — those who bothered to vote — is a good deal more complex and negative. Opinion polls suggest that half of those who voted doubted the president's trustworthiness: fortunately for Mr Clinton a larger percentage had an unfavourable opinion of Speaker Newt Gingrich — the burden Mr Dole could never shed. Fortunately too, a majority said that issues matter more than a candidate's character. The decisive issue remained the economy where a majority believes that the country is moving in the right direction. Mr Clinton has also shown remarkable success in attracting a majority of women voters — by a greater margin than his opponent gained the majority of men voters. (The age factor may have been the equivalent for Mr Dole of Richard Nixon's stubble factor.) Another poll statistic should also prompt reflection. Half of Mr Clinton's supporters are said to have emerged from the voting booth with second thoughts about the president. How fortunate again that a greater percentage had similar misgivings after voting for Bob Dole! In a campaign where both contestants manoeuvred for the middle ground, Mr

Clinton has had a clear advantage all along. He has been less encumbered by his "liberal" wing than Mr Dole has been by his right wing: by shifting to the centre in the second half of his term, Mr Clinton was already in occupation. It has been a largely policy-free campaign which leaves political analysts grasping for clues as to what Mr Clinton will actually do in his second term. The White House is trying to fill the gap with predictions that he will leave behind a substantial "legacy". This remains less the language of policy substance than of presidential image, which may also become vulnerable to more negative interpretations as the Republicans renew their attack upon his character. It is of course possible to take a more comfortable view both of Mr Clinton's policy deficit and of the poor turnout which has returned him to office. The drift towards the centre, it may be argued, is a desirable phenomenon in a less polarised world and voter apathy is a price worth paying for it. From a foreign perspective it may also be suggested that Mr Clinton's avoidance of radical policies at home should leave him with more incentive to seek radical solutions to problems abroad — such as the Middle East and Northern Ireland. But American society is hardly in such good shape that it can be left to coast along, and the low turnout also points up its own social problems. Not only is the 49 per cent of eligible citizens who voted the lowest for decades: it has happened in spite of 11 million new voters being registered through "motor voting" and similar procedures to make registration easier. Special efforts had been made to recruit the young, the poor and the black, yet they remain the categories least likely to vote, and the most vulnerable in society. Should this not be the real challenge for those building bridges to a new century?

Now, just let the children learn
Ridings school has made a good start: the pupils are crucial

RARELY have so many been blamed for the decline of a school. Rarer still — and the one heartening element in the sorry story — is the readiness of almost all guilty parties to accept some responsibility for the slide of the Ridings school into anarchy. Yesterday's report from the school inspectors exposes the full horror of the Halifax school: the pupils' low attainment; chronic truancy, and widespread disruption; rivalry and factionalism among the teachers; and management failures by the headteacher, school governors and local education authority. Yet, as the BBC Panorama programme on Monday demonstrated, teachers, the headteacher, school governors and the local education director are all ready to concede fault. Yet one party has not been ready to accept any responsibility: Education Secretary Gillian Shephard. Of course she cannot be blamed for the many mistakes made at local level: the unclear rules, uneven application, inconsistent disciplinary decisions, poor teaching, inadequate support and lack of a proper strategic plan or monitoring system. Nor was she directly responsible for the rejection of the local council's bid for a single regeneration grant: it would have given the dilapidated school a share of the £2.5 million earmarked for education. But the party policies which led to Ridings are not only endorsed, though admittedly reluctantly, by Mrs Shephard but enshrined in her current Education Bill. A conscientious education secretary would now

concede her Bill must be seriously revised. Ridings is the exception which, if Tory policies are enacted, would become the rule: it would mean the restoration of a hierarchy of schools — grammar, selective, partly selective, grant maintained and, at the bottom, a local education authority comprehensive mopping up the rest. Some 75 per cent of children at Ridings were below average ability. About 25 per cent had special needs. There are other schools with such handicaps who do better, but the challenge facing Ridings compared with its selective and comfortable neighbours is stark. Can Ridings be rescued? Even with five inspectors inside last week the teachers lost control. How do you lift yourself up from the bottom of a local league of 17 secondary schools when the attainment gap is so large? Just one per cent at Ridings obtained five GCSE passes between A and C in 1995. The national average is 44 per cent and the district average 37 per cent. One local school achieved 91 per cent. The challenge is daunting but all sides are right to try: 600 children cannot be written off. A good start has been made: the appointment of a new and successful local head, the teachers' strike threat lifted, a decisive move on discipline before the doors were reopened. It is too early to make predictions. But even in the old anarchy, good teaching was discovered. The pupils remain crucial. That's why their "Yobs Out — We Want To Learn" rally was so important.

Lauding the new role models
And they were much closer to home than anyone thought

WHO SAYS family values are dying? Today's Guardian ICM poll shows that 88 per cent of respondents say that their own parents demonstrate the moral values they would wish everyone else to follow. This will come as a surprise to many of the parents involved who may have no idea of the benevolent effect they have had on their children. Parents were in a class of their own coming 10 percentage points ahead of the next categories — teachers, doctors and police officers. Of course this poll tells us nothing about the actual moral values of the parents — merely that whatever they are, they appear to be passed on to the children. Maybe it's just in the genes. It is possible that the offspring of criminals or nutjobs will automatically identify with the morality, or lack of it, of their own parents since that's all they have to go by. It is equally possible that the Duchess of York's children regard her as a moral

role model. Which is just as well because the royal family as a whole — doubtless because of the moral soap opera they have become — have sunk to a level where only 30 per cent of people regard them as moral leaders — less than trade union leaders (37 per cent) and business leaders (41 per cent). If there is a moral, it is that society may be too pessimistic about the difficulty of reversing the decline in discipline in some of our schools. The fact that one's own parents and teachers are the biggest role models suggests that if the two could only work more closely together — without each trying to off-load responsibility onto the other — then a kind of moral synergy might result. Otherwise, as a newspaper, we can only say thank goodness for pop stars. Without them journalists would have been bottom of the pile instead of only second to bottom. No one is incapable of improvement.



Letters to the Editor
Boys behaving badly

SO why should boys be sliding towards primitivism so much faster than girls? (The boys with the wrong stuff, November 6?) The answer is really not too difficult to locate. Boys have since the mid-1970s grown up in a society where their urge to work and provide, to win respect from their communities, to father and rear their children in loving families, has been undermined by mass unemployment, the weakening of the trade-union movement and the paltry nature of much of the work that does exist for working-class men. If there is no future to strive for, then the best option is to plunge headlong into the now and its immediate pleasures: including the misuse of drugs and the gaining of peer respect and fear through criminal activities. The very few contemporary role models that exist for boys reflect this inarticulate hedonistic resignation: the Gallagher brothers, Train-spotting, certain "football-lad" comedians, Shaun Ryder, Loaded magazine and gangsta rap. This is the generation that thought nothing, did nothing, believed nothing. And who can blame them? Dave Wibberley, 2 Smyrna Mansions, London NW6 4LU.

US and many parts of Europe. We are still struggling to understand why this has occurred. Commonly mentioned are: ● The feminisation of schooling; ● The feeling that "real men don't read"; ● Lack of motivation for boys who see their fathers unemployed or don't see them at all; ● Our failure to redefine masculinity in post-feminist terms. (Dr) Peter West, Senior Lecturer in Education, University of Western Sydney, c/o Hinchbrook School, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire.

WOMEN take the blame for everything, I know, but I really don't think that we can blame feminism for turning boys into lads. The cause is much closer to home and much simpler. The sudden explosion of New Lad culture on to television means that not only is it okay to be a yob, it's funny. Shows like Men Behaving Badly, They Think It's All Over, Fantasy Football, Chris Evans in The Big Breakfast and then on Radio 1 all proclaim loud and clear that fanning and drinking lager are enviable social assets. Women only succeed when they imitate blokes — like Beck and all the women police officers in all the never-ending cop shows. Boys don't get their role

models from school or home. They get them from the box and their mates. Don Webb, 140 Bishops Mansions, Bishops Park Road, London SW6 6DX. WOULD Yvonne Roberts (Class upon a foreign time, November 4) count Paul Barker's excellent reminder that children thrive best with two parents (For the children's sake, November 4) as yet another reactionary plea to restore her straw 1950s fantasy? Most of the hundreds of thousands of children of split families still have two parents even though they are labelled as "single parent" by the adult world. Barker's is one of several recent attempts to acknowledge the scale of abuse this useless separation represents, and to reform the legal process which still fosters exclusive possession of children by one parent. Some MPs worked hard this year to include in the new Family Law Act clauses about the child maintaining a relationship with both parents — something the much vaunted Children Act does not state. The next stage is to redirect the millions going into the divorce process into practical support for children and parents — including the resource-starved Contest Centre for split families. Jeremy Andrew, CES Limited, 5 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SN.

DAVID Shaw's proposed amendment to the Education Bill is flawed (MP aims to root out teacher 'scruffs', November 4). He says that teachers should "dress as professionals" — only that way will they get the respect of children, of parents, and of the public. Is the MP suggesting that to be "professional", teachers should wear suits and proposition prominent local businessmen to be paid to ask their pupils questions? Will they then fail to disclose these earnings and go on free holidays at the expense of local hotel-owners? Or does the MP for Dover consider the behaviour of his colleagues such as Neil Hamilton to be unprofessional? Moral standards in society are set from the top. While we have members of the royal family jumping in and out of various beds, the clergy involved in child abuse, MPs taking bribes, and our Government selling weapons to odious dictators while lying to Parliament about it, the rest of society will have a tough time choosing which moral path to follow. M A Catty, 78 Dryden Crescent, Stevenage, Herts SG2 0JH.

HOW will the Tories, who I don't know a combat knife from a handsaw, be able to agree a definition of the "smart clothes" that teachers are to be made to wear? Still, at least I and my colleagues, who habitually wear suits in the classroom, will be able to charge our tailors' bills to the taxman. I hope the resultant increase in public expenditure has been costed. M A Catty, 78 Dryden Crescent, Stevenage, Herts SG2 0JH.

However you dress it up, David Shaw has lost the teachers' vote

AS A supply teacher in various secondary schools I am well aware of the importance of appearances, and always take care to dress smartly (Letters, November 5). The different schools I visit demand different clothes: what is just right for

one may be too formal, or informal, for another. The vast majority of teachers I know dress smartly and appropriately for the job. The call for a dress code is yet another example of a Tory MP trying to discredit the teaching profession and distract attention from the main issues. Due to the closure of special units for disruptive pupils, a small minority of hard-core disruptors have to be kept in mainstream schools where they take up a disproportionate amount of staff time and energy. Anna Alberda Ellis, 4 Josephine Road, Huddersfield HD4 6UD.

Show the door

PATRICIA Harman's plastic door (Report, November 6) is one in the eye for the culture vultures from English Heritage. How considerate of them to be sorry for the distress caused to Mrs Harman by their own arrogant refusal to accept the appeal inspector's decision. In 100 years' time when someone may wish to change this plastic door back to wood, no doubt English Heritage will argue that plastic is the bee's knees. Roderick Bridge, Ash Cottage, Northfield Lane, Hailey, Oxon OX8 5UU.



Millennial monument to waste

WHAT a wonderful dome: what a brilliant architect; what a marvellous concept... what a complete and utter waste of money (World's biggest dome marks millennium, November 1). I do not understand how any government, be it local or otherwise, can allow \$800 million to be spent on a building which has no real function and will be standing empty in a year's time. Would this money not be better spent on hospitals, schools or the homeless?

I realise that the money is not coming from the Government, but if these sorts of funds are available for this useless monstrosity, which will do nothing more than boost the ego of the architects, then surely we can convince those people in the private sector, and wherever else the money is coming from, to invest it in the social welfare of the country? Dennis Carlyle, 3 Westfield Avenue, Beverley HU17 7HA.

About your new pledges, Mr Birt

THE BBC must now go cap in hand to Rupert Murdoch for permission to use his "Set Top Box" if it is to participate in digital broadcasting (Who will stop Rupert?, November 4). Why? Michael Checkland and his Board of Directors decided that engineering was of little value in an organisation like the BBC. Overnight, and without consultation, they ordered savage cuts in engineering research and design. Today the BBC Engineering Division no longer exists. The corporation now finds itself being overtaken by new technology instead of driving it forward as was the case in the past. Had this not taken place, the BBC could have been into digital transmission five years ago, well ahead of Rupert Murdoch. David Smart, (Former BBC engineer,) 6 Beltinge Road, Harold Wood, Romford, Essex RM3 0UJ.

IN the past, the BBC has covered US elections by simply picking up the election-night programme produced by one of the US networks. This was informative, interesting and (presumably) cheap. What we had on Tuesday night was simply a shambles. The sound was unbelievably bad and the numerous technical hitches laughable. The first "representative" audience did not contain a single black face. Most irritatingly of all, the programme was woefully short on information about what was happening in the elections — the virtual absence of voting figures and the lack of detail on Senate and House elections was not compensated for by the silly and uninformative computer graphics. Someone should surely be bawled over the coals. David Denver, 41 Belle Vue Terrace, Lancaster.

That ticking pensions bomb

AS THINGS stand, no EU citizen who has moved about from one member state to another (How to defuse the pensions bomb, November 4) will receive a full pension, even though he/she will probably have been contributing continuously according to the different requirements of each state in which he/she has worked. Indeed, if someone moves about a lot, it is entirely possible that he/she will not get any pension at all, anywhere. There is a general tendency to say it is impossible to sort this out because the problem is "very complicated"; yet many no less complex EU harmonisation problems have been resolved with alacrity. When it is a case of finding ways to pay out funds held in trust for those who provided them, there seems no end to the ability of member states to frustrate things for as long as possible. This is why people such as Dick Taverne like to refer melodramatically to pension

the money was made. But then he had the cheek to reveal that he was in full possession of the City's wise judgment on this — that using the profit to make further profit in fact enables the wealth to trickle down to the poor. Of course. What simplicity and clarity. Away with guff: all my pension payments have been trickling down to the poor. How fortunate that I am now one of them. Colin Crouch, 2 Fernhurst Gardens, Aldwick, Bognor Regis, Sussex PO21 4AZ. DICK TAVERNE suggests that we do not have to raise our taxes to pay for pensions. He advocates reduction of benefits and national pension rights. May I suggest that he absolve the taxpayer from contributing to his substantial attendance allowance as a member of the House of Lords? No doubt his index-linked Commons pension will tide him over comfortably. Rosalie Walker, 29 Cherington Road, Bristol BS10 5BJ.

A Country Diary

ROSS-SHIRE: In wildlife terms it is easy to make a mistake and the recent publication of a book on golden eagles reminded me of such an event on a hill not too far from Inverness. I was taking part in a selective survey of eagle territories and it was a long but satisfying walk into the cliff face. I soon found the first eyrie and I wrote down in my notebook that the nest had not been lined so the eagles had not nested that particular year. I then decided to walk up round the cliff and it was then that I found another suitable looking site by — needless to say — a rowan tree. There on a wide ledge was another eyrie but this time it had been lined and even a cup for the eggs had been formed but there was no sign of any eggs or, for that matter, any adult eagles. Out came the notebook in which I wrote that the eagles had formed a complete nest including the egg cup but for some reason had not laid and the territory was deserted. I then scrambled up to

the top of the cliff where I sat on a flat area covered with quite tall heather. I made a few more notes but then my concentration was broken by a call note. It was apparent that it was from a nesting and my first thought was a golden eagle chick. Then I dismissed the idea as an empty, golden eagle's nest was just below me and the sound seemed very close. I searched everywhere and suddenly there in the heather on flat ground was a nest scrape with a golden eagle chick. I made a mental note to write down later that this was a new hastily constructed nest as the eagles had been disturbed at the other nest below and this chick was probably from a second clutch. I stepped backwards from the nest and tripped over something in the heather and there was the remains of a photographer's hide from the year before. As far as the three eyries were concerned I had made mistakes on all of them. RAY COLLIER

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.

Tommy Lawton

Head first for club and country

TOMMY Lawton, who has died aged 77, has long been regarded as one of the finest centre-forwards to have played for England, scoring 22 goals in 23 games. Had he been operative now he would have earned, and been transferred for, millions. Instead he played for the relative pittance earned by the professionals of his time, and in his declining years even found himself hauled into court on charges of petty fraud, a pitiful anticlimax to a remarkable career.

Lawton, like Nat Lofthouse after him, was born in Bolton and attended Castle Hill School. If Lofthouse was playing wartime football for Bolton at 15, Lawton was leading the Burnley attack in the Football League at 16.

Why didn't he join Bolton Wanderers? He was, after all, the outstanding schoolboy footballer in the town, even if he never won a schoolboy cap for England.

Walter Rowley, then Bolton's coach, did try to sign him as an amateur, after a spell when he had trained two nights a week at Burnley Park. But their concurrent offers, of ten shillings a week for a clerk's job, or seven and six as a butcher's roundsman, were unattractive.

Advised by his grandfather and a former schoolmaster, WH Horrocks, Lawton showed a penchant for Anfield, where he'd been applauded in schoolboy games, and Liverpool. But Liverpool, though interested, failed to come up with a part-time job. Bury, when approached, didn't bother to watch him. Southampton Wednesday were ruled out when Lawton's mother didn't want him to leave home, and Burnley became the lucky club.

In May, 1935, the 15-year-old Lawton, with his mother and his grandfather moved to Burnley. He was coached by a hard taskmaster in Ray Benion, who made him endlessly practise his shooting and his heading, running round the field to pivot and

strike all the Bs in the advertisement BURNLEY'S BEER 1935 EST.

On March 28, 1936, aged only 18, Lawton made his League debut for Burnley in the Second Division against Doncaster Rovers. It was a draw. In his second game, at Swansea, he scored twice, the first with one of those typical, towering headers. It used to be said of Lawton, and there has even been scientific evidence to suggest it was more than legend, that he could actually hang in the air before a header.

Working hard under Ben-



tion, he improved his left foot until it was almost as powerful a weapon as his right. But though he scored infinite goals with either foot, it was for his heading ability that he was always especially renowned.

Meanwhile, still only 16, he was playing League cricket for the Burnley Club, under the aegis of the famous West Indian fast bowler Manny Martindale. He even took a six off the famed Learie Constantine.

Five foot 11 and powerfully built, Lawton began the following season for Burnley with a burst of goals, three of them in a single game against Tottenham.

By this time his grandfather — a familiar tale in soccer — had become the groundsman at Burnley's Turf Moor stadium, and it was to him that Lawton turned for advice when emis-

saries from Everton arrived on the last day of 1936. He was duly taken on to the Everton ground staff and moved to Goodison Park.

There the plan plainly was that he should take over from the veteran Dixie Dean, a fabulous header of the ball and scorer of 60 First Division goals in the 1927/8 season. When the newly-arrived Lawton took the tram to Goodison, its conductor recognised him and told him: "You'll never be as good as Dean."

But Dean was benign. "Youngster," he said, the mo-

The scientific evidence suggested it was more than legend — that he could actually hang in the air before a header

ment he saw Lawton, "you've come here to take my place. Anything I can do for you, I will." *Rara avis* Lawton's debut for Everton came quickly but it was a well-augured one, even if he did score from a penalty in their team's 6-2 defeat. His direct opponent was a future colleague in so many England teams: the elegant Wolves centre-half, Stanley Cullis.

Lawton was in and out of Everton's team that first season, though he did play and score in a memorable Cup replay in the fifth round at Tottenham, Spurs winning 4-3 after being 3-2 down. He had played inside-right to Dixie Dean.

After two initial defeats at the start of season 1937/8, Lawton replaced Dean, definitively. It was an indifferent season for Everton, but they began the following one with six wins in a row and went on

convincingly to win the championship. Lawton scored no fewer than 22 goals for Everton in the 1937/8 championship. In 1938/9, his last First Division season for the club, he scored another 24 League goals in 38 games.

He won his first cap for England as a 19-year-old at Cardiff against Wales in October, 1938. Lawton did score from a penalty, but England were beaten 4-2.

Lawton stayed in the England team, scoring at High Wycombe in a win against the Rest of Europe, when the Uruguayan centre half Andreolo spat, to Lawton's disgust, at the referee, and above all, getting the winner against Scotland at Hampden the following April. Those, then, were the Blue Riband games, and Lawton's header from Stanley Matthews's characteristic cross, made it 2-1 for England.

When war came Lawton, like so many British professional footballers, was allocated to the Army Physical Training Corps at Aldershot. There he played as a guest for the little local club, which was able to deploy a galaxy of stars such as Cullis and Lawton's two Everton colleagues, the England wing-halves Cliff Britton and Joe Mercer.

Wartime international games were not officially recognised, which was ironic when England had such a spectacular team. Scotland were beaten time and again, not least in 1943 by an 8-0 margin at Maine Road, Manchester. Lawton scoring four of those goals.

Lawton did not stay with Everton, but a club frequently at odds with its stars. A dispute led to Lawton being the subject of a surprise transfer to Chelsea in the autumn of 1945, for what was then the huge sum of £11,500.

Almost at once he found himself leading the attack, and scoring in a remarkable 3-3 draw at Stamford Bridge against the legendary Moscow Dynamo touring side.

When first class football resumed, Lawton scored 26 First Division goals for Chelsea in only 34 games. He continued to play for England, and scored twice for Britain versus Europe. But he was still a restless figure and demanded a transfer, to general astonishment he moved to Third Division Notts County, for a new record fee of £20,000.



Tommy Lawton... his declining years produced a pitiful anticlimax to a remarkable career. PHOTOGRAPH CRAIG EASTON

and he would score one of England's goals in a notable 4-0 win over Italy in Turin in May, 1948.

Scoring freely, Lawton stayed with Notts County until the 1951/2 season, taking them up to Division Two in 1949/50 with 31 goals in 37 games. He left Nottingham, where he'd been involved with a firm selling typewriters, to become player

manager of Brentford in Division Two. Two seasons later he was brought back to the First Division by Arsenal, where he made 35 appearances for 13 goals.

For a while he was player manager of the non-League club Kettering. Next he went back to manage Notts County, nurturing the early careers of two promising young centre forwards in Tony Hateley and

Jeff Astle. But management was never really his forte, and his subsequent years in Nottingham were star-crossed ones, though he did, eventually, write with some success for the local paper.

Brian Glasville
Tommy Lawton, footballer, born October 5, 1919; died November 6, 1996

Rohan Butler

European history from the inside looking out

IN A PROFESSION increasingly characterised by narrow specialisation, Rohan Butler, who has died aged 79, represented a different kind of historian, one whose work was not confined within a narrow chronological range or focused upon the internal history of a single state. The variety of his historical interests stretched from the political culture of 18th-century Europe to the structure of 20th-century diplomacy and characters of European liberalism.

His own role in the major events of mid-20th-century European history gave him an indelible sense of the relevance of the past to the preoccupations of present-day debates. His aim was to write history "from the inside" as he put it, to understand his historical events and decisions through the mental and cultural world of the protagonists, however complex and dense the resulting historical work would be.

Rohan Butler was born in London, but from 1920 until 1938 his home was in Geneva where his father, Sir Harold

Butler, was head of the International Labour Office. Educated at Eton, he spent his vacations in Switzerland and early in life acquired fluent French and German which served him so well in his later scholarship. He went up to Balliol in 1935, where he was strongly influenced by his tutor, Humphrey Sumner, whose cosmopolitan approach to 18th-century history was probably a formative influence in the shaping of Butler's own scholarship. In 1938 he obtained a first class degree, and later that year was elected to a fellowship at All Souls, most unusually following the footsteps of his father who had been elected a generation before.

Both his undergraduate career at Balliol and the first year of his fellowship had been lived under the shadow of the intensifying European conflict, and above all the rise of National Socialism in Germany. Butler, who throughout his life regarded despotic and repressive regimes with a patrician contempt, was uncompromisingly hostile to appeasement. In 1939 he published *The Roots of National Socialism (1783-1933)*, which proposed that many aspects of Nazism were deeply embedded in German culture. This influential book underpinned Butler's later arguments for

the formal suppression of the state of Prussia, arguments which were instrumental in shaping the decision of the allied Council of Foreign Ministers after the occupation of Germany in 1945.

When war broke out in 1939 Butler volunteered for the Navy, but was rejected on grounds of his poor eyesight. Instead he served in the Ministry of Information from 1939. In 1944 he was transferred to the Foreign Office, where he played a major role in planning for the allied occupation of Germany and Austria. His experience and the reputation he acquired there for meticulous preparation and a wide-ranging approach to problems, provided him with the possibility of a subsequent career in the Foreign Office. He declined this, together with offers of tutorial fellowships at Balliol and Christ Church, in favour of a major historical project whereby, initially as the subordinate of Sir Llewellyn Woodward, he undertook the compilation of a comprehensive selection of the documents in the British Foreign Office archive from 1919 to 1939.

The resulting volumes of *Documents on British Foreign Policy* revealed Butler's scholarship at its most rigorous and exacting. By now But-



Rohan Butler... rigorous and exacting scholarship

ler's reputation as a 20th-century diplomatic historian was well-established; he was invited to write the chapter on the peace of Versailles and its aftermath for the *New Cambridge Modern History*, and in 1963 was appointed to the post of Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a post which had lain in abeyance since 1928. However, his fascination with 18th-century Europe had continued to develop, indeed had been heightened through direct experience of the disasters and breakdown of a com-

mon European cultural inheritance in the 20th century. In 1980 the major fruit of his reflections on 18th-century politics, society and culture emerged as the first volume of a projected three or four-volume study of the life of the Duc de Choiseul, *Choiseul, Father and Son, 1719-1784*. Affairs a post which had lain in abeyance since 1928. However, his fascination with 18th-century Europe had continued to develop, indeed had been heightened through direct experience of the disasters and breakdown of a com-

mon European cultural inheritance in the 20th century. In 1980 the major fruit of his reflections on 18th-century politics, society and culture emerged as the first volume of a projected three or four-volume study of the life of the Duc de Choiseul, *Choiseul, Father and Son, 1719-1784*. Affairs a post which had lain in abeyance since 1928. However, his fascination with 18th-century Europe had continued to develop, indeed had been heightened through direct experience of the disasters and breakdown of a com-

mon European cultural inheritance in the 20th century. In 1980 the major fruit of his reflections on 18th-century politics, society and culture emerged as the first volume of a projected three or four-volume study of the life of the Duc de Choiseul, *Choiseul, Father and Son, 1719-1784*. Affairs a post which had lain in abeyance since 1928. However, his fascination with 18th-century Europe had continued to develop, indeed had been heightened through direct experience of the disasters and breakdown of a com-

mon European cultural inheritance in the 20th century. In 1980 the major fruit of his reflections on 18th-century politics, society and culture emerged as the first volume of a projected three or four-volume study of the life of the Duc de Choiseul, *Choiseul, Father and Son, 1719-1784*. Affairs a post which had lain in abeyance since 1928. However, his fascination with 18th-century Europe had continued to develop, indeed had been heightened through direct experience of the disasters and breakdown of a com-

mon European cultural inheritance in the 20th century. In 1980 the major fruit of his reflections on 18th-century politics, society and culture emerged as the first volume of a projected three or four-volume study of the life of the Duc de Choiseul, *Choiseul, Father and Son, 1719-1784*. Affairs a post which had lain in abeyance since 1928. However, his fascination with 18th-century Europe had continued to develop, indeed had been heightened through direct experience of the disasters and breakdown of a com-

mon European cultural inheritance in the 20th century. In 1980 the major fruit of his reflections on 18th-century politics, society and culture emerged as the first volume of a projected three or four-volume study of the life of the Duc de Choiseul, *Choiseul, Father and Son, 1719-1784*. Affairs a post which had lain in abeyance since 1928. However, his fascination with 18th-century Europe had continued to develop, indeed had been heightened through direct experience of the disasters and breakdown of a com-

mon European cultural inheritance in the 20th century. In 1980 the major fruit of his reflections on 18th-century politics, society and culture emerged as the first volume of a projected three or four-volume study of the life of the Duc de Choiseul, *Choiseul, Father and Son, 1719-1784*. Affairs a post which had lain in abeyance since 1928. However, his fascination with 18th-century Europe had continued to develop, indeed had been heightened through direct experience of the disasters and breakdown of a com-

mon European cultural inheritance in the 20th century. In 1980 the major fruit of his reflections on 18th-century politics, society and culture emerged as the first volume of a projected three or four-volume study of the life of the Duc de Choiseul, *Choiseul, Father and Son, 1719-1784*. Affairs a post which had lain in abeyance since 1928. However, his fascination with 18th-century Europe had continued to develop, indeed had been heightened through direct experience of the disasters and breakdown of a com-

mon European cultural inheritance in the 20th century. In 1980 the major fruit of his reflections on 18th-century politics, society and culture emerged as the first volume of a projected three or four-volume study of the life of the Duc de Choiseul, *Choiseul, Father and Son, 1719-1784*. Affairs a post which had lain in abeyance since 1928. However, his fascination with 18th-century Europe had continued to develop, indeed had been heightened through direct experience of the disasters and breakdown of a com-

Birthdays

John Barnes, footballer, 33; Sir John Egan, chief executive, BAA, 57; Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes, Conservative MP, 51; Dr Billy Graham, evangelist, 78; Dame Gwyneth Jones, operatic soprano, 60; Wolf Mankowitz, author and playwright, 72; Joni Mitchell, singer and songwriter, 33; Sean Shrimpton, hotelier, former model, 54; Dame Joan Sutherland, operatic soprano, 69; Helen Suzman, South African liberal champion, 79.

Death Notices

DOBNEY, peacefully, at the Chelsea & Westminster Hospital on 1st November, David John, actor, son of the late Marjorie and Hedley, brother to the late Roy. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium, at 2pm, on Thursday 14th November. Family flowers only. Donations please to Abbeyfield House Trust, 53 Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 3JW.

HILL, Talbot, husband of Ellen and father of Lewis, peacefully at Meadow House Hospital, Funeral service Monday 11th November at 12.30pm, St Stephen's Church, Ealing.

LEYLAND, Eric, died peacefully at home on October 28th after a long illness. Beloved husband of Madge, father of Mark and Susan. Funeral service at 11.30am on Monday 11th November at 11.30am. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to the Inpatient Cancer Research Fund. Enquiries to St Peppercorn's Care Ltd, 0161 891 5000.

In Memoriam

NEATHER-HAVES, Mrs, died tragically aged 16 years 7th July 1982. Remembered by her family.

If to place your advertisement telephone 0171 713 4567. Fax 0171 713 4129

Jackdaw



News bar

MR GROGAN says there is a lot of work to be done, and it is going to take about a year to get the hotel exactly as they want it.

But already there is a nice atmosphere to the place, he says, and the Green Man will recapture its family-run community feel.

The couple's plans for the hotel include:

- * Toilets in the Boswell Bar, which will be developed separately for people wanting a quiet drink or a bar snack, with daily newspapers available in racks on the walls. You do not want to imagine the chaos that would be in the cocktail.

Room tactics

1. STARE at the TV as if hypnotised as long as it is off, when your roommate turns it on, act uninterested and read a book.

2. When your roommate is here change into the room, holding a broom as a rifle, scream, "The Nazis have come for us!", dive over the couch, and pretend to shoot about twenty of them, then put the broom away and go about your normal routine (repeat every hour).

3. Refuse to get dressed in front of the TV, whisper to your roommate "You never know what they're going to report next about me."

4. Quickly run up to your roommate, claim that it wasn't your fault, it was an accident, cling to his leg sobbing until he forgives you.

5. Fill an air tank with normal oxygen, claim that you're into inhaling helium, inhale some oxygen and then talk as deep as you can.

Counter-rules

RULE 1. The most important thing in any relationship is getting to "Yes! Yes! Oh God, yes!" Casually drop the fact that you spent a year at a Zen monastery in Hokkaido studying AI YI, a twelve-hundred-year-old philosophy — "technique, really" — that induces sustained sexual ecstasy in females. Scott at "those ridiculous reports" about women dying from AI YI-induced heart attacks, but concede that it is not uncommon for the woman to lose consciousness.

RULE 2. It's better to drop names (even if you don't know them) than to get dropped. Hang an "autographed" photo of Mel Gibson in your bathroom, inscribed "To the real Braveheart." When she asks what it means, shrug and say, "Well, you know how Mel exaggerates."

RULE 3. A counter-rules man doesn't throw money away. Tell her that you're planning to spend two weeks cruising the Turkish coast on a yacht once owned by the Aga Khan, but that you have "too much respect" for her to invite her on a

Buzz word

The Andromeda Group was officially activated on 11-11-94. I am the Coordinator of this Group. I am to give the code word "Andromeda" to any and all people that I sense will respond. If you automatically feel an excitement when you see or hear the word "Andromeda" then you are ready to join. If you are not sure, please do the following: Write three words, any words, on a piece of paper. One of the words is to be "Andromeda." Say each word out loud. See how you RESPOND to the word "Andromeda." You may feel a response — it may be a tingling, or a sense of excitement or knowing. The Andromeda Group consists of specified individuals from around the world who are here for the purpose of the survival of this planet and its life forms.

The larger purpose of how this mission is to be fulfilled is unknown on the first level. But I know intuitively the answer is there in the greater known unknown, and it will be revealed as we progress. Each person in the Group has specific skill or skills that they will be able to activate when called upon. For some individuals, it is one they only know through true supernatural means. Thus, it is important that we begin to know who and where we are, and to link together.

Within the context of this purpose are the topics of medicine, research, technology, air and space travel and exploration, water (both fresh and oceanic) food production, storage and service. There will

Relationship

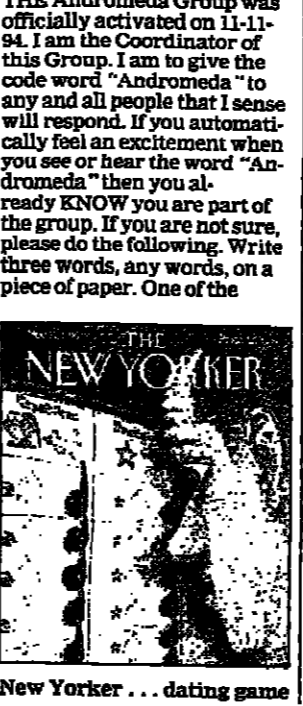
trip "this early in our relationship."

RULE 6. Always have an exit strategy. At the moment of amorous climax, call her by the wrong name. This will get you back to your place in time to catch the "Patron" rumour on Encore. (Note: use sparingly.)

RULE 7. In case of emergency. When the conversation turns to "commitment," tell her you once witnessed an Amazonian ritual in which a shaman threw a man's and a woman's tongues together with crocodile gut. Remark, "Now that's commitment." She'll probably change the subject.

If she says she's a Rules Girl and she's not going to sleep with you any more unless you agree to get married, say OK, but did she see the interesting article in the Times on R.D.D.S (Rules Date Deficit Syndrome)? Explain that it afflicts women who rigorously follow "The Rules" and as a result never get asked out on dates, get married, or have children. Christopher Buckley describes in the New Yorker, *Time-Tested Techniques for Attracting Ms. Commitment*.

New Yorker... dating game



Thinking the world better

Found at <http://vaader.chick.com/annmar/> by Lindsay Marshall.

Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; **Jackdaw**, The Guardian, 115 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

Handwritten signature or scribble at the bottom of the page.

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer
Telephone: 0171-239-9610
Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

USAir to buy Airbus fleet

£1.1bn order safeguards jobs at BAe factories

Keith Harper and Mark Milner

AIRBUS Industrie was last night celebrating one of the world's largest ever orders — an £1.1-billion agreement to supply up to 400 aircraft to modernise USAir's fleet.

Airbus said that the agreement included 120 firm orders for Airbus A319, A320 and A321 aircraft, all single-aisle planes with a capacity of between 125 and 175 seats, to be delivered between 1998 and 2002. It also has options to provide a further 280 aircraft up to the end of 2010.

Stephen Wolf, chairman of USAir, which is still British Airways' main US partner, said that it had to modernise and simplify its fleet by reducing operational costs and facing up to competition in its eastern US stronghold.

Notebook

Lessons of the Clinton victory



Alex Brummer

THE predictability of Bill Clinton's presidential election victory should not be allowed to detract from its significance.

It will, of course, be argued by Republicans that this would never have happened but for the "Contract with America" which bowed the Clinton team in. However, by the time the Republicans took control of Congress, the deficit had already been halved and in the recent campaign it was the Republicans who were putting forward tax cuts that could have cost at least \$546 billion by the year 2002.

That is why the bond and stock markets have reacted so well to the return of Mr Clinton. His electoral promises were sensibly measured: tax credits for college tuition, extension of individual retirement accounts (a tax-free savings vehicle favoured by New Labour in the UK) and "employment zones" designed to bring some of the benefits of the miracle economy to the ghetto.

With this kind of market record in Mr Clinton's first term there will inevitably be worries about what happens ahead. Will the commitment to bringing the budget closer to balance be weakened? Will the US's traditional refusal to accept the international economic consensus reappear? Will the dollar's strong run come to an end and can an economy, growing so robustly, defy the trade cycle?

These are all issues which tangentially exercised the Group of Seven at its last session in late September and will be watched by central bankers and finance ministers everywhere.

THE budget deficit is central to what Mr Clinton has achieved and the economic prospects for his second term. Politically, as the US markets demonstrated in post-election trading, the combination of a comfortable (but not landslide Clinton victory) together with reaffirmation of Republican majorities in both houses of Congress means that the union is more or less safe from economic lunacies.

A bit of history is useful here. In fiscal year 1992, the last of the Republican three terms in office, the budget deficit was \$290 billion, or 4.9 per cent of gross domestic product. In 1995, it was \$183.9 billion and, according to new data, just released by the US Treasury, the deficit is now down to \$107 billion, 1.4 per cent of GDP, and one-third of the level when President Clinton took office.

Ofcom warns BT on Murdoch connection

Nicholas Bannister, Technology Editor

THE telecom regulator, Don Cruickshank, yesterday said he would object to British Telecom becoming a large shareholder in Rupert Murdoch's media and entertainment empire.

Mr Cruickshank, commenting on BT's £12 billion bid for MCI, said he was concerned about regulation of the converging telecommunication and information industries.

BT may end up with 13 per cent of News Corporation, Murdoch's master company, which has interests in newspapers, television, and books. MCI has already agreed to incorporate. I do not know the answers yet. Maybe the answer will be policing the boundary between networks and content providers.

Dominion joins US predators as it eyes East Midlands bid

Chris Barrie, Business Correspondent

ANEW takeover battle loomed in the electricity industry last night when the US utility, Dominion Resources, was forced to disclose that it was considering a \$1.2 billion bid for East Midlands Electricity.

The announcement, demanded by a sharp rise in East Midlands' share price, will put trade and industry secretary Ian Lang under growing pressure to halt the bidding bonanza in the utilities in the election run-up.

On course, say Eurocrats Not so, claim bankers



Not up to the mark... Chancellor Helmut Kohl and finance minister Theo Waigel prepare for yesterday's cabinet as the EMI warned that the German economy was heading the wrong way for monetary union

Brussels in spat over terms for euro

John Palmer in Brussels and Ian Traynor in Bonn

EUROPE'S future central bank and the European Commission yesterday clashed over Brussels forecasts that an overwhelming majority of EU countries would make the grade for a 1999 introduction of a single currency — the euro.

The Frankfurt-based European Monetary Institute said that most EU countries could fall to qualify in time and complained that overall budgetary and fiscal "consolidation" was too slow.

On target?

Country	Target	Current
Belgium	2.0%	2.0%
Denmark	0.0%	0.0%
Germany	2.0%	2.0%
Greece	2.0%	2.0%
Spain	2.0%	2.0%
France	2.0%	2.0%
Ireland	2.0%	2.0%
Italy	2.0%	2.0%
Luxembourg	0.5%	0.5%
Netherlands	2.0%	2.0%
Portugal	2.0%	2.0%
UK	3.5%	3.5%
Austria	2.0%	2.0%
Finland	2.0%	2.0%
Sweden	2.0%	2.0%

Two rebel Emap directors take battle to chairman

Ian King

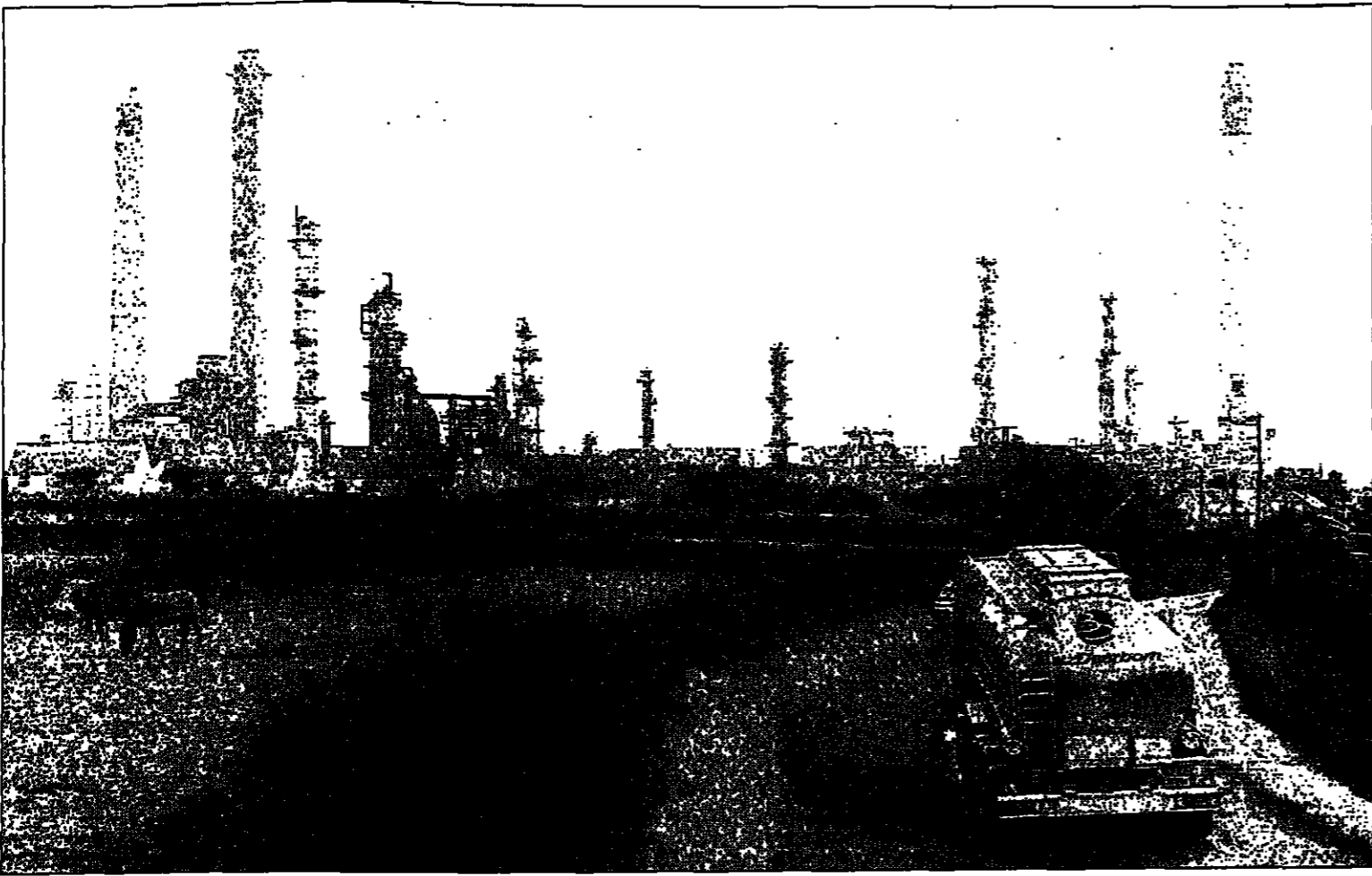
KEN Simmonds and Joe Cooke, the two rebel directors of Emap, yesterday publicly accused the media group's chairman, Sir John Hoskyns, of misleading shareholders before this summer's stormy annual meeting.

The pair, who face calls for their removal from Emap's board at an egn next month, said Sir John wanted to oust them because they had opposed controversial changes to Emap's articles of association at the meeting.

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS

Australia 2.0175	France 8.22	Italy 2.470	Singapore 2.280
Austria 17.7	Germany 2.4350	Japan 1.5735	South Africa 7.0
Belgium 50.22	Greece 387.00	Netherlands 2.7425	Spain 205.15
Canada 2.14	Hong Kong 12.41	New Zealand 2.25	Sweden 10.77
Cyprus 0.730	India 59.73	Norway 10.30	Switzerland 2.0
Denmark 8.4165	Ireland 0.9725	Poland 247.70	Turkey 153.225
Finland 7.4800	Israel 5.34	Saudi Arabia 6.13	USA 1.61

Survival of the fittest in oil game



The Gulf refinery at Milford Haven will be kept open for storage to avoid the cost of restoring the land to a greenfield site. PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY MORGAN

Merger costs 500 jobs

Celia Weston
Industrial Correspondent

THE planned merger by Elf, Gulf Oil and Murco will cost the UK refining and marketing operations, announced yesterday, will cost at least 500 jobs and save an estimated £50 million a year.

The merger, expected to be completed early next year, has been prompted by excess capacity and shrinking profit margins. It will create an as yet unnamed new company with about 1,500 service stations and an estimated 8 per cent share of the UK fuels market. The supermarket chains currently have an estimated 18 per cent share of forecourt petrol sales. Gulf and Elf will each take a 42.5 per cent stake in the new company, while Murco will have a 17.5 per cent stake. All three will continue to market petrol through their own brands, although a single brand may emerge later. The three-way merger is part of a continuing rationalisation in the European and US markets which have seen oil companies struggling to cut costs and secure efficiencies of scale through partner-

ships and mergers of downstream operations. Earlier this year, BP and Mobil were given the go ahead by European Union authorities to combine their refining and marketing of fuels and lubricants to create a venture expected to secure a 12 per cent share of the fuels market and an 18 per cent share of the lubricants market in Europe.

Shell Oil Company, the US arm of Royal Dutch Shell, is in talks with American company Texaco to combine US refining and marketing operations in a multi-billion dollar venture that could potentially control 15 per cent of the US petroleum products market. Yesterday's deal will mean the end of refining at Gulf's Milford Haven works, Pembroke, from the middle of next year, leaving two refineries — Elf and Texaco — operating in the town. The Gulf refinery, some of whose modern plant has been sold to Texaco, will be kept open as a storage facility rather than shut down, to avoid the merger company incurring the additional expense of returning the land to a greenfield site.

Merging the three workforces of 1,222 staff is expected to lead to about 250 job losses on the refining side and another 250 among staff at the three headquarters. The new company will have its headquarters at Gulf's offices in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. The companies said they were committed to looking for early retirement, voluntary redundancy or limited redeployment to manage the losses. Union representatives said they would join forces with other local bodies to lobby the EU for additional funding to help Pembroke, which already suffers a male unemployment rate of one in four. Christian Cleret, head of Elf Oil UK who will become managing director of the new company, said: "We recognize today that, for all three of us, this merger is the best option." David Setchell, managing director of Gulf Oil UK, will be chairman. Steve Wylie, finance controller of Murco's Murphy Eastern, will be finance director.

Downstream deal

Three companies combine assets in new venture

Murco Petroleum Limited	Elf Oil UK Limited	Gulf Oil (GB) Limited
A wholly-owned subsidiary of Murphy Oil Corporation, US	A wholly-owned subsidiary of Elf Aquitaine of France	A wholly-owned subsidiary of Chevron Corporation, US
No. of service stations: 440 sites 140 company-owned 300 dealers	801 sites 457 company-owned 144 dealers	479 sites 192 company-owned 144 dealers
No of employees: 130 (excl. service station personnel)	552 (excl. service station personnel)	640 (excl. service station personnel)
Share of UK fuels market: 0.9%	2.9%	4.4%
UK turnover: £240 million (1995)	£1.2 billion (1995)	£1.3 billion (1995)



Adair unflustered as the litmus test turns towards red

CBI chief is determined to remain neutral while warning to Labour, Larry Elliott and Simon Beavis report

TEN YEARS ago Adair Turner was working his way up through the ranks of the management consultants, McKinsey, after a brief dalliance with the Social Democrats. It was six months before a general election, Mrs Thatcher and Nigel Lawson were in their pomp, and the Government could scarcely care less about the business vote. It was simply assumed to be the Tories'. It was a good time not to be at the top of the Confederation of British Industry which was banished to the political wilderness.

A decade later, six months or so away from the 1997 election, Mr Turner finds himself in a rather different position as the CBI's director general. The political establishment is desperate as never before for industry's endorsement. All three parties are huddling in the middle ground — a place where the CBI has always felt most comfortable. Four years after Black Wednesday and in a period when the Government's record on economic management has been severely challenged, the Conservatives need business to do the usual thing and say: "Vote Tory, you know it makes sense."

Tony Blair, after ditching Clause IV and adopting non-interventionist, sound-money policies, wants nothing more than for industry to proclaim that Labour really is a leopard that has changed its spots. "What will Mr Turner do? "We are going to maintain a neutral political stance while commenting on individual policies which we either agree or disagree with," he says, with something like nonchalance.

Asked if the highly-paid executives who make up the CBI's membership might put more pressure on for a more partisan line as polling day approaches, he pauses. "I hope there will be no pressure to abandon our neutrality. I have no intention of abandoning it. I am not coming under any pressure at the moment — none whatsoever." Certainly he has warned to New Labour. He approves of more spending on transport,

of Labour's education and training policy, and agrees that there is a problem with Britain's investment record. But Mr Turner is just as impatient, if not more so, with the things Labour has ditched — "I welcome the shifts in policy: the dumping of Clause IV, the broadly more pro-business stance, the commitment to macro-economic stability and the tight control of borrowing."

Points of conflict remain — such as the Social Chapter and the minimum wage — but signals from the CBI's Centre Point HQ in London indicate 'I welcome the shifts in policy — the dumping of Clause Four, the broadly more pro-business stance, the commitment to macro-economic stability and the tight control of borrowing'

Power firms launch attack on confused regulation

Simon Beavis
Industrial Editor

TWO of the leading privatised electricity companies claimed yesterday that they would be exempt from Labour's proposed windfall tax on the utilities as they launched scathing attacks on the Government and its watchdog about the state of regulation. In evidence to the Commons Trade and Industry select committee, PowerGen and the National Grid both said that they expected to be exempt from the tax which Labour says it will use to fund an emergency programme for jobless youth. Ed Wallis, the chairman of PowerGen, claimed that the office of Labour leader Tony Blair had directly in-

more and more that these are problems business can come to terms with. Provided New Labour really means what it says about resisting pressure from Brussels for an extension of qualified majority voting on social legislation, the Social Chapter is less of a worry than the CBI has liked to pretend in the past. Some CBI members, Mr Turner admits, see the benefits of a minimum wage — provided it is at a suitable level. "At £4.26 (the old TUC formula of half male median earnings) it would have a significant impact on unemployment of between 125,000 and 250,000 jobs. Set at the low £3 its impact would be very much less." The neutral stance looks to some like smart politics even if it means being frustratingly uncontroversial. In fact it represents a clear understanding that on several key issues — Europe, education and tax — the CBI has little to gain and everything to lose from being dragged into the parties' battle for the business vote. When asked about cuning in schools, Mr Turner says that duffers at his tough Scottish school got a belting for poor performance. Then, he sought to avoid trouble by keeping his head down — a strategy he intends to stick to in the next six months.

Bank urges Clarke to raise rates

Larry Elliott
Economics Editor

THE Bank of England yesterday put renewed pressure on the Chancellor for higher interest rates and an ultra-cautious Budget, after claiming that last week's small rise in the cost of borrowing was insufficient to counter mounting inflationary pressure. It served notice on Kenneth Clarke that he could expect no respite in the six months remaining before the election, warning that any backsliding on inflation would run the risk of repeating the policy mistakes of the late 1980s.

Despite the 8 per cent rise in rates, the Bank's quarterly Inflation Report stressed that higher wages, stronger growth and dwindling industrial capacity were warning signs that should not be ignored. Underlying inflation, excluding mortgages, would only briefly drop below the Government's 2.5 per cent target during next year before starting to rise once more. Mervyn King, the Bank's director of economics, said the continual failure to hit its "elusive" inflation target could raise doubts about the credibility of policy. "The later we leave it [raising interest rates] the more we will

have to do", he said. The hawkish tone of the report made it clear that the Bank saw the quarter-point rise in base rates to 8 per cent merely as redressing the fall of a similar size in June, which it strongly opposed. "The recent rise in rates should help reinforce credibility," said Mr King. "But what matters most is the continuous pursuit of a monetary policy which is consistent with achieving the target in the medium term. To ensure this outcome, some further rise in interest rates is likely to become necessary in due course." Industrialists have already expressed concern about the

impact of a dearer pound on exports, but the Bank said yesterday that the priority had to be the control of inflation by using base rates. It acknowledged that the balance of the economy had shifted away from exports towards consumption during the course of 1996, and that this trend was likely to be reinforced by the stronger pound. The report added: "It would be a mistake, however, to try to alter the balance of the recovery by pursuing an easier monetary policy in order to offset the rise in the exchange rate. That would do nothing to control the growth of domestic demand."

Underside

Dan Atkinson

LOUD drilling noises drowned out Mervyn King, Bank of England economics supremo, yesterday as he tried to brief the media on the Old Lady's latest inflation report. There he said, was the evidence of the roaring boom: the construction industry was working at full tilt. Maybe, but given that the briefing took place in a basement at the Bank, somewhere near the famous vaults, let's hope the drilling wasn't related to a pre-recessionary upswing in crime.

body paint" and "kissing chocolate". BHS's dreadfully risqué offerings for Yuletide lovers. But the nadir is reached with "Let it rip", a "fun pot" designed to simulate wind-breaking activities. We could go on to detail the "BHS Flushing Toilet Money Boxes", but are feeling a little sick. **O**N A more wholesome note, those Brits at Environment and Media Awards on Tuesday night at the May Fair Hotel (we won't discuss the winners save to say the Guardian took the top three prizes) demonstrated what may be intriguing changes to the Green Lifestyle. Entrants paid a £25 fee, in return for which they attended the ceremony and slugged back as much free drink as they could handle. Alcoholic drinks, that is, orange juice, the greenies' favourite beverage, cost £2 a glass. This is the kind of environment for which we could all sign up.

CHEEK of the week: In another corner of the publishing forest, Sunday Business founder Tom Ruythyon is planning to take time off from his troubled organ to stand for Parliament. No, not a late-comer to the Referendum Party, he is to campaign as an independent against Tory MP Gerald Howarth in Aldershot. Quite what TR has against Mr Howarth is unclear, but he told us: "I don't think his record stands up to scrutiny". Aggrieved creditors of Sunday Business Mark 1 (the version that went into administration) may harbour similar thoughts about Candidate Ruythyon.

STIFF upper lip of the striver from brokers Best Investment, in recent years one of the most avid independent financial advisers in its plugging of Morgan Grenfell's unit trusts. Best used regularly to print pictures of disgraced fund managers Peter Young in its newsletters, but one may have expected some humming and hawing now, or even some contrition with relation to punters burnt by Mr Young's antics. Not a bit of it. True, Mr Young's name has mysteriously vanished from sight, but Best chirrups: "Despite recent irregularities and their volatile history, we continue to recommend the European trusts."



UNIMPEACHABLE evidence that those of us who feared the worst when good old British Home Stores fell to Sir Terence Conran more than a decade ago were oh-so-right to do so. BHS (no trendy lower-case letters here) yesterday vomited up a "Christmas Shop" product list of such abominable taste as to make fans of the old order throw away their vintage BHS desk-lamps. Most of us could probably live with the "chocolate

ELSEWHERE. Bill Gates, the fons et origo of billionaire anoraks, is a bit touchy on the topic of executive greed, we hear. His Microsoft company is providing the £50,000 prize for the Fantasy Boardroom

A CABLE & WIRELESS COMPANY

JUST WHAT YOUR COMPANY NEEDS TO REDUCE ITS BT PHONE BILL. MERCURY.

Does your company make lots of international or UK long distance calls?

Then simply add Mercury Business Solutions to your phone system. And start counting the savings.

MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS Save 48% on a three minute call to the States during weekday working hours. Or 39% on a five minute long distance call in the UK. (Even compared to the new BT basic rate.)

We can tell you how much you will save with Mercury right now over the telephone. Naturally, that phone call will not cost you anything.

International savings are based on standard evening rates of a 42p minimum charge. The UK national call is based on UKLand package, calls subject to a 2p connection charge. All prices and savings compared against BT basic rate, based on 1996 night/weekend. A 10p connection fee of £1.50 per quarter applies. All prices quoted in 1996.

Call us now on FreeCall 0500 800 125 and find out how much your company would save. Or return this coupon to Mercury Communications, FREEPOST MK 9964, PO Box 46 Wythenshawe, Manchester M22 4UE.

MR/MRS/MISS/MS/MRS INITIALS SURNAME

JOB/TITLE

COMPANY NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

TELE NO.

It doesn't cost anything to talk
FreeCall 0500 800 125. BPODN:16

مكتبة القرآن

Godami to Hennessy

Racing

Jodami tops the Hennessy weights

Chris Hawkins

JODAMI, who will be 12 at the turn of the year, has been shown no mercy by the handicapper and burdened with 12st in the Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury on November 30.

Beaumont doubts whether Jodami will run but plans an outing at Ayr for him on Saturday week before reaching a decision.

Among his likely opponents in the Ayr race is The Grey Monk, one of four Hennessy entries from Gordon Richards whose strong hand is made up by Addington Boy (10-11), Unguided Missile (10-11) and Tartan Tyrant (10-8).

Deep Decision looks on course for fourth victory

DEEP DECISION (3.50) likes the flat lands of Lincolnshire and goes for his fourth win at Market Rasen this afternoon, writes Chris Hawkins.

My Gallery (3.30) have been prolific winners and are after the record number of handicapper successes in a season.

Baronet, one of the season when accounting for Chase Chief in the Johnsons International Novices' Chase.



Winning leap... Palosanto on his way to victory in the Preston Amateur Riders' Handicap Hurdle at Haydock yesterday

Baronet's performance is full of promise

BARONET, one of the season when accounting for Chase Chief in the Johnsons International Novices' Chase.

"We will feel our way with him. I have a lot of novice chasers and this would not be a bad horse. His hurdle form is more than adequate."

"I've always thought he was a potential three-mile novice chaser and a few more performances like that should confirm it."

close at Worcester recently, landed the New Cup Novices' Chase in fine style after being found guilty of "misleading the stewards of the Jockey Club."

Trophy. However, the success was only achieved after Master Orchestra had to be pulled up approaching the last when appearing to have the measure of his rival.

Musselburgh card with guide to the form

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details. Includes races like 1.10 Kingship Boy, 2.40 Totally Yours, 3.40 Welford, 4.10 Brocton Gold.

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details. Includes races like 1.40 Ladbroke ON-COURSE HANDICAP, 2.40 Totally Yours, 3.40 Welford, 4.10 Brocton Gold.

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details. Includes races like 1.40 BATHING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES, 2.40 Totally Yours, 3.40 Welford, 4.10 Brocton Gold.

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details. Includes races like 2.40 OFFROAD WATER FILLING HANDICAP, 3.40 Welford, 4.10 Brocton Gold.

Lingfield all-weather programme

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details. Includes races like 1.30 Another Starburst, 2.30 Cheeky Chappy, 3.30 My Gallery, 4.00 Mr O'Dwyer's.

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details. Includes races like 1.00 A-PLANT POWERED ACRES MAIDEN STAKES, 2.30 GERRIN HANDICAP, 3.30 BATHING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES.

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details. Includes races like 1.30 LEO CLAIMING GUARANTEED STAKES, 2.00 ACCORD PUPPIES HANDICAP, 3.20 JACKSONS NOVICE HURDLE.

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details. Includes races like 1.50 BARCELONA CHAMPIONSHIP NOVICE HURDLE, 2.20 JIMMY FISHERMAN NOVICE CHASE, 2.50 BIRKENHEAD BUSHBERRY HANDICAP.

Market Rasen (N.H.)

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details. Includes races like 1.30 Another Starburst, 2.30 Cheeky Chappy, 3.30 My Gallery, 4.00 Mr O'Dwyer's.

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details. Includes races like 1.30 LEO CLAIMING GUARANTEED STAKES, 2.00 ACCORD PUPPIES HANDICAP, 3.20 JACKSONS NOVICE HURDLE.

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details. Includes races like 1.50 BARCELONA CHAMPIONSHIP NOVICE HURDLE, 2.20 JIMMY FISHERMAN NOVICE CHASE, 2.50 BIRKENHEAD BUSHBERRY HANDICAP.

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details. Includes races like 1.50 BARCELONA CHAMPIONSHIP NOVICE HURDLE, 2.20 JIMMY FISHERMAN NOVICE CHASE, 2.50 BIRKENHEAD BUSHBERRY HANDICAP.

Blurred for the first time - MUSSELBURGH: 1.10 Top of Silver; 1.40 Jay The Elf; Rising Glory; LINGFIELD: 1.00 Aresh; 2.00 Suite Factors.

Kurta backed

RACELINE logo with phone number 0930 1684 and other details.



Give it to me straight... Jeremy Guscott hears the bad news from Jack Rowell at Blaham Abbey yesterday

Not centre stage but still in the wings

Eddie Butler says that, in the new era of tactical substitutions, Jeremy Guscott may not be warming the bench for too long. The Lion could yet play a role in Jack Rowell's New England

THE old bestseller, 'Things Not to Do On The Rugby Field', is full of puerile homilies: "Fall over, young man, in Dunedin. And you're sure to go home a'bleedin'."

dropped from the first England XV to be captained by Phil de Glanville. The loss of Richards is the less dramatic, for they've been trying to get rid of Deano for years. Too slow, too set in his ways, too strong to manage.

Christie-quick, Caffreys smooth. He may have been underused but he was the Plan B in waiting, or rather he was the alternative style that was given just enough licence to perform to keep the onlooker in a state of perpetual frustration.

early try against Scotland at Murrayfield in the Grand Slam decider of 1990. But that was a game England lost. Introspection took over; the forwards took over. Even Guscott became part of the snarling Nineties, his sneer already rehearsed in the Lions' series win in Australia in 1989.

Mike Catt at outside-half and distributing it with relish to new converts in Henry Paul and Jason Robinson. For the perfect pass, watch Guscott, we heard from fellow players such as Richard Webster.

Those three, however, may be back for the four-day fixture starting at the main Oval tomorrow, and like the new Middlesex signing Greg Blewett they will be pushing for places in the Test series against West Indies.

Cricket Headley starts England A on road to victory

day cricket, with Ricky Ponting at No. 3 and Michael Bevan at No. 5 vulnerable. "The No. 3 spot is the best way," said Blewett, 25. "My aim is not to go and play for Middlesex next year, it is to go on the Ashes tour." He struggled yesterday, however, against Headley's opening spell. He battled to 45 from 85 balls with four fours but then hit a slower ball straight to White at cover. Hollis was England's most expensive bowler but earned his three wickets, varying his pace and taking a spectacular return catch to dismiss Jeff Vaughan.

Boxing King draws up plan for Tyson

MIKE TYSON's fight calendar for next year was drawn up by the promoter Don King yesterday, four days before the World Boxing Association champion makes his first defence against Evander Holyfield in Las Vegas.

Anglo-Welsh Cup: Neath 19, Leicester 36 Back returns to give Tigers bite

NEIL BACK'S comeback after a six-month suspension for man-handling a referee lasted an hour at The Gnuil last night before the England flanker limped off with a recurrence of a hamstring strain. By then Leicester had maintained the dominance of English clubs in what has virtually become a competition for reserves.

Campese and Hastings in the cold

ON THE day Jeremy Guscott was banished to the bench, Scott Hastings and David Campese, Scotland's and Australia's most capped players, discovered they will likewise be among the replacements when their national sides meet at Murrayfield on Saturday.

against the Wallabies. Campese, who made his 100th appearance for the Wallabies against Italy a fortnight ago, makes way for the powerful 20-year-old left-wing Joe Roff.

Quinnell hints at England move

SCOTT QUINNELL, the Richmond No. 8 who is refusing to accept a place in the Wales squad because of a row over pay, may make himself available for England next year.

Rugby League Salford catch a sprinter

PETER MATTLAND, a 22-year-old winger and international sprinter, has joined Salford Reds from Bridgend rugby union club.

Tennis Ice-hot Ivanisevic

GORAN IVANISEVIC demolished only 10 points on his serve throughout the match, sketched in intermittently with the umpire, and wore his hair whirled up on the crown of his head with a rubber band like Mr Whippy in the ice-cream ad.

Rallying McRae enjoys reign in Spain

COLIN McRAE beat his Italian team-mate Piero Liati as Subaru took first and second places in the Catalunya Rally yesterday and claimed victory in the manufacturers' championship.

Advertisement for 'MORE money' with interest rates of 10.5%, 11.9%, and 12.9% APR. Includes a table of loan options and contact information for The Loan Corporation.

Heart patient runs for GB, page 14
England back on track, page 15

Emerson goes walkabout, page 14
Back returns after ban, page 15

SportsGuardian

Carling survives clean-out

Robert Armstrong

WILL CARLING has confounded expectations by keeping his place in Jack Rowell's England team. He will win his 67th cap in a mid-field partnership with the new captain Phil de Glanville against Italy at Twickenham on November 23. Carling's selection means there is no place for his long-serving England partner Jeremy Guscott, who has been in outstanding form with Bath.

among the replacements. The England coach Rowell has dispensed with half a dozen players, including the Northampton half-backs Matt Dawson and Paul Grayson. Carling, who resigned as captain in March, is the only survivor from an old guard that included Dean Richards, Rory Underwood and Guscott. "The ramifications of making Phil captain were obvious but I kept an open mind and, when I came to training, I was pleasantly surprised," said Carling. "But I'm under no illusions about what it will take to stay there."

Rowell said he had no objection to Carling, at 30 the oldest player in the team, playing at fly-half for Harlequins. "If that's how Will refreshes his mind and keeps himself

stimulated, so be it." Guscott, surviving on the bench after 45 caps, said: "It was always going to be difficult picking two out of three. At least tactical substitutions are allowed now."

No such option remains for Dawson and Grayson, who may have played their last games for England. The three championship tries last season. Instead the 21-year-old Gomersall and Mike Catt, whose sole England appearance at fly-half came against South Africa last year, form a new half-back pairing.

The introduction of Adebayo and Stimpson reflects Rowell's desire for extra pace and scoring potential among the backs. Adebayo, who has plundered 12 tries for Bath

Oxbridge Ron sent up and brought down



Paul Weaver

ALIX FERGUSON, glum old Tuggart himself, must be pondering whether he has enough puff to blow out the 10 candles on his sour-cream birthday cake. Instead he should remind himself that, if there is someone to be pitied more than the manager of Manchester United, it is the former manager of Manchester United. Just look at the list since Sir Matt: Wilf McGuinness, Frank O'Farrell, Tommy Docherty, Dave Sexton, Ron Atkinson. Does anyone have a number for the Missing Persons Bureau?

This week Atkinson, the last of the actor-impresario managers, lost the job at Coventry City although, if you are to be handed your hat and P45 in bleak midwinter, being kicked upstairs as director of football with pocketfuls of spondulicks - reportedly £250,000 a year - is as nice a way as any.

Oxbridge-educated Atkinson (Oxford United and Cambridge United) was 17 and on the Aston Villa ground staff when he bought a Ford Anglia for £34 and drove it to training. "Some mornings I'd see Jackie Sewell and Peter McParland at the bus stop. Now they were real big time. McParland had won the Cup for Villa and Sewell held the British transfer record. 'Jump in,' I'd say, 'and mind the upholstery.' They might have thought I was a flash little bugger but never said a word."

not as bad as he makes out. He admits his last cigar was smoked 25 years ago and pretends to be drinking Buck's Fizz when it is orange juice. His big drink is really tea.

The only people who don't like him are those who don't know him. Beneath the carefully created, rather superficial image - one that helped him land the job at Old Trafford as well as a few on TV - beats the heart of a real football man, a great enthusiast and an expert in man management.

In recent years he has looked more Small Ron than Big Ron, more Corbett than Barker. His famous loyalty to players, including former players, has been overdone. He has relied too heavily on old pros when a side cut out for young blood, and perhaps too much on attack.

It is no good going forward like Brazil if you are haemorrhaging goals like Cleethorpes Thirds, and in recent years Aston Villa and Coventry, at the back, have looked about as convincing as Devon Malcolm's forward defensive. Richie Barker, a friend and the assistant manager at Sheffield Wednesday, is good on Atkinson. "When we were having a bad patch, I was quite happy if we won 1-0. But Ron never was. He liked to do everything with great style and sometimes I felt that style overtook the result. He doesn't just say 'Let's beat 'em.' He says 'Let's beat 'em easy.' But his knowledge is second to none. He got on with players and made training fun for them. The old Coventry comforter, that they hold up well for the first half of the season and then fade after Christmas, looks a little threadbare this morning, with the club already near the bottom of the Premiership. If they bury themselves any deeper they will be coming out in Australia next April."

Sacchi out of luck in Bosnia

Paddy Agnew on a defeat for Italy that may be the last for their present coach

IT WAS intended as a match in which the result would come second to solidarity, goodwill and international cooperation. For the first time in months Italy's soccer coach Arrigo Sacchi was given a sympathetic reception by Italian sports media when he spoke about the importance of being the first national team to play Bosnia in Sarajevo.



Son of a gun... 'We'd make the bullets for Tommy and he'd fire them home. He scored goals that mattered,' said Wilf Mannion.

England mourns Lawton

Nick Varley and John Duncan: on the most complete centre-forward the British game has produced, who died yesterday aged 77



Lawton... 231 league goals

TOMMY LAWTON, the most complete centre-forward in British history, died yesterday after a long illness. His death at 77 served as a graphic reminder of how the rewards and perils of football stardom have changed irrevocably in the past 50 years.

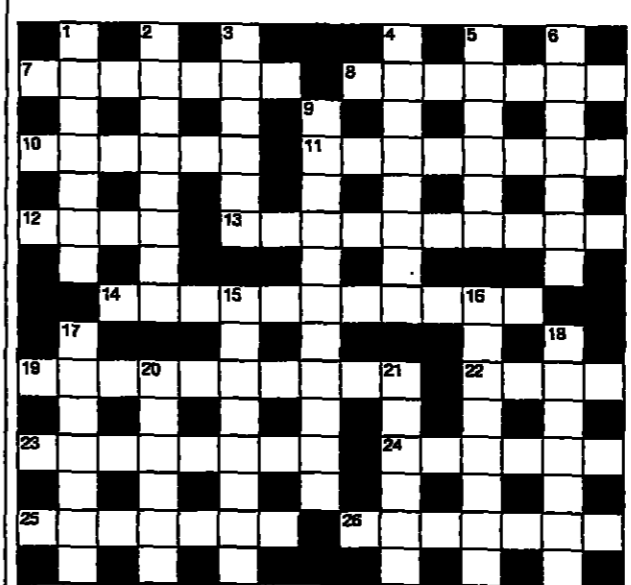
Lawton, in a professional career that began at Burnley in October 1936 and ended at Kettering in 1957, scored more than 231 goals in 390 League appearances. He was famed for his heading ability, following Dixie Dean at Goodison Park. When he joined Everton he was greeted by his team-mate Joe Mercer with the comment: "Aye, son, you're a big 'un." Lawton replied: "Aye, and a good 'un."

He was true to his word, confounding those who said he could never fit the boots of Everton's famous striker. He did, and 34 goals in 38 games gave Everton the 1938-39 championship. The finest moment of an international career interrupted by the war was probably the 4-0 victory in Turin over the World Cup holders Italy in 1948 when he scored one of the goals. But Lawton, like many players of his generation, fell on hard times after football and became unemployed after falling in management at Notts County. "I would leave home of a morning pretending I had a job just like any other working man and I would sit all day in the market square or the library till it was time to go home again. More than once it crossed my mind to walk into the Trent, to end it all." He survived a

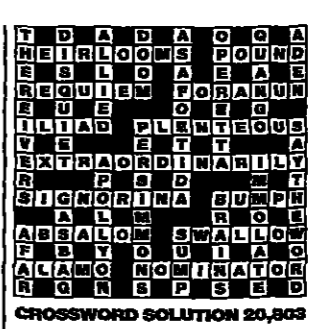
post-war years, said: "He was the finest centre-forward I played with in the finest forward line. We'd make the bullets and he'd fire them home. He played in some of the greatest games and scored the goals that mattered."

Guardian Crossword No 20,804

Set by Rufus



- Across**
- 7 Foreign Legion's drink (7)
 - 8 Bill gives way and agrees (7)
 - 10 Lot of Arabs (6)
 - 11 You will know when you've got it (8)
 - 12 A very small amount for the time of year (4)
 - 13 It's hard to get as low as this (4,6)
 - 14 Type-cast him in a role showing compassion (11)
 - 19 Staggered, due to ill-fitting satin shoes (10)
 - 22 Formerly of some concern (4)
 - 23 He makes an offer to support Rose somehow (8)
 - 24 They are found at sports grounds and in the streets (5)
 - 25 Party leader likely to be easily influenced (7)
- Down**
- 1 Trickery of the French in a sense (7)
 - 2 Mastering it may need solid study (8)
 - 3 Model child-minder (6)
 - 4 Mix up in motor-cycle trial (8)
 - 5 Some money raised for the chessmaker (8)
 - 6 Threatened, but received support (5,2)
 - 9 Shrewd fielders in sticky leg traps (11)
 - 15 Well-known line in footwear (8)
 - 16 Ring in wrong details and get cut off (8)
 - 17 Normally Laura's out with a sweetheart (2,1,4)
 - 18 School girl embracing black-guard from the Orient (7)



CROSSWORD SOLUTION 20,804

20 Harp on about an unfortunate child (6)
21 Is in a hide to see a bird (6)

Solution tomorrow

Stuck? Then call our solutions line on 0891 336 238. Calls cost 50p per minute Mon-Fri, 8am-6pm, and 45p per minute at all other times. Service supplied by ATS.

ANSWERS

The long-running saga of Ivy's ghost, which Vera believed to be hovering about her, was breathtaking in its banality, as was the kidnapping of Mavis and Derek's garden gnome, which included an episode in which the hapless couple received a gnome ear in the post.
Jaci Stephen on Soap Wars

62 cover story

هكذا من الاجل